Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-93-126
Friday
2 July 1993

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FBIS-SOV-93-126 2 July 1993

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Russian-French Space Expedition Launched From Kazakhstan

LD0107112693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1040 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS military observer Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Leninsk, 1 Jul—Baykonur cannot exist without Russia's technical and financial resources. This idea was stressed by Defense Minister Pavel Grachev when he arrived at the cosmodrome where a Russian-French space expedition is to be launched today. Following the launch of the "Soyuz TM-17" spacecraft, Pavel Grachev and First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets who arrived here will hold talks about the future of the cosmodrome with head of the Kazakh Government Sergey Tereshchenko and Defense Minister Sagadar Nurmagombetov. The sides will discuss the draft agreement which is expected to be signed at the top state level. Setting out the Russian position, Pavel Grachev said that he will insist that the Russian status of the cosmodrome's military formations is recognized. In addition the Russian military department proposes signing at the meeting of Presidents Yeltsin and Nazarbayev an agreement on the improvement of space cooperation and confirming the Baykonur bilateral agreement reached earlier.

There is another option for settling contentious problems, namely to give Baykonur's Russian military formations the status of a Russian military-space base and to transfer part of the facilities used for scientific and economic purposes to the authority of state joint enterprises and organizations.

As for Kazakhstan's standpoint, it does not recognize that the formation of military-space forces at the cosmodrome is under Russian jurisdication, in spite of the intergovernmental agreement of 2 October 1992. In May this year, the Kazakh side proposed that these formations be granted joint status and that a joint command and cosmodrome administration be set up to run Baykonur's activity in the capacity of an inter-state administrative body. There is also a proposal to set up a coordination council headed by a deputy prime minister of Kazakhstan. The Russan side regards these steps as unacceptable.

Pavel Grachev stressed that he is optimistic about the possibility of achieving compromise solutions. The sooner we conclude a mutually agreement the smaller the damage that will be caused to the buildings and equipment of this unique complex, he said.

Space Program Problems Examined

LD0207093393

[Editorial Report] Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1850 GMT on 1 July carries a 10-minute program, "Questions Raised by Space," reporting on the launch of the Soyuz TM-17 spacecraft on 1 July and rounding up recent space developments in Russia and the CIS.

The program opened with a report outlining the project schedule and noting the French participation. The correspondent went on to explain the problems facing the Baykonur space center. He said the personnel at the center are suffering from professional dissatisfaction, day-to-day problems, and a lack of hope. Moreover, he said, the town and the testing ground have become the center of a political struggle over ownership. He explained the position of the Russian military space forces and the Kazakh authorities.

Continuing, the correspondent said that the Russian military-industrial complex is also involved in the squabble. In spite of its great intellectual potential, it is losing important opportunities because of a lack of money, he said. An example of this is the Buran program, which was abandoned at the end of June. The military-industrial complex, the correspondent went on, is proposing that a sort of joint-stock space center be set up at Baykonur, to be founded by any interested parties, including foreign space agencies. He added that there would probably be a lack of investors willing to finance such a project these days.

The correspondent continued: "All these problems were discussed at the space center by Russian and Kazakh Governmental delegations on the day when the international crew blasted off. But, as expected, they once again failed to adopt any specific decisions. All they did was sign a protocol on the need to search for effective measures to preserve Baykonur and determine a few initial actions to prepare the space center for winter and maintain its activity. This will require approximately 23 billion rubles before the end of the year. Meanwhile, the Russian and Kazakh Defense Ministries came to an agreement on the carrying out of military service by republican citizens in Russian military-space units. The first 5,000 young Kazakh servicemen will arrive at the space center as early as July, Defense Minister Grachev said. No one is prepared to predict what the consequences of this will be. And the most acute question, of course, remains unanswered: the status of the town and the testing ground, and their prospects for the future."

Video shows semi-constructed Buran spacecraft, shot from various angles, and another spacecraft; personnel; officials inspecting the space center; and more pictures of space center.

The correspondent continues to explain the agreement signed this week on the development and production of a rescue system for the Ariane-5 rocket booster, involving the Russian Parachute-Building Institute, the Spanish firm Simsa, and the Dutch company Fokker. He pointed out that the contract represented the beginning of Russian participation in the production of new-generation European rockets. Today's launch also reflects Russia's deepening involvement in the European space program, he said.

Concluding, the correspondent outlined other international space projects that may involve Russia in the next

few years, provided that the necessary funds are made available for Russian plans to be realized.

Problems Affect International Projects

PM0207103693 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 93 First Edition p 1

[Sergey Leskov report under general heading: "On Day of Baykonur Launch It Is Still Not Clear Who Will Be Cosmodrome's Owner"]

[Excerpts] The launch of the 14th basic expedition to the Mir orbiting complex from the Baykonur Cosmodrome is planned for the evening of 1 July. This flight will be the fourth expedition in which a cosmonaut from France has participated. [passage omitted]

It would be unfair to say that the cosmodrome is living nowadays just for the next space launch. The leaders of Russia and Kazakhstan have arrived in the city of Leninsk. The subject of the upcoming talks is the status of Leninsk. Unfortunately, all the previous agreements on Baykonur have not resolved the cosmodrome's problems in the least. As a result, many cosmodrome veterans get the impression that Baykonur is needed today neither by Russia, which is no longer making large investments in it, nor by Kazakhstan, which does not have sufficient potential for managing such a complex system.

Even foreigners, however, see the importance of Baykonur's problems. "I believe that it would be wrong if the considerable achievements of cosmonautics in your country were to be buried because of the present problems," Jean-Pierre Haignere said before the launch.

The situation with regard to the largest cosmodrome is all the more sad because an uncommonly felicitous situation is now taking shape with regard to the involvement of Russia, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan in a number of major international projects. These involve, above all, cooperation in designing and launching the Freedom orbiting station and also a number of projects with the European Space Agency. But these plans cannot be realized without a reliable cosmodrome in southern latitudes.

Solutions Sought

PM0207120593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 93 First Edition pp 1-2

[Viktor Litovkin report under general heading: "On Day of Baykonur Launch It Is Still Not Clear Who Will Be Cosmodrome's Owner"]

[Text] Baykonur—The purpose of the visit of [First Vice Premier] O. Soskovets and [Defense Minister] P. Grachev to Kazakh soil, so the defense minister declared, is not just to attend the launch of the Soyuz TM-17 craft which is being carried out, as always, by the Russian military—but also to familiarize themselves with the life and activity of Russia's chief cosmodrome, to have meetings and talks with Kazakh Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko and Kazakh Defense Minister Sagadat Nurmagambetov, and to prepare an interstate agreement on the question of the future utilization of the cosmodrome and its unique scientific test and production base.

Officials recognize that a lot of problems have accumulated at Baykonur, and they have become particularly acute since the breakup of the Union and Kazakhstan's announcement that the cosmodrome is its own state property. The funds are not available to keep up such a huge facility, still less to develop it rationally and to utilize it. Nor are there experienced cadres to organize production work there. The chief space port has recently fallen into such a state that it is now a question of its survival as such.

Kazakhstan proposes its own way out of the situation. Despite the intergovernmental agreement of 2 October 1992, it does not recognize the status of the military space forces at the cosmodrome as Russian, insists on joint leadership of them, and proposes giving the Baykonur administration the functions of interstate management organs and setting up a coordinating council for the management of Baykonur headed by the country's deputy prime minister. But in that case, experts believe, the cosmodrome loses the status of a Russian installation—which could lead to a social explosion among its residents and servicemen and disorganize and disrupt the fulfillment of Russian and international space programs.

Russia insists that the Baykonur space units retain their Russian status, although it does not rule out and even welcomes the possibility of Kazakhstan's citizens, officers, and ensigns serving in them on a voluntary basis. It proposes to use some of the installations as scientific and national economic joint ventures and joint-stock companies in the interests of fulfilling national and interstate programs and also commercial flights.

Experts say that the basic principle here must be as follows: Whoever invests the money and material assets in these installations must control them.

Russia is also seeking to give the cosmodrome's defense installations the status of a military space base under its jurisdiction. At the same time it proposes not to charge rent for its mobile and immobile military property and installations but to compensate Kazakhstan for it by providing diverse services in the space system—geodesic, navigational, topographic—and providing satellite channels of communication and management, television and radio broadcasting, and to train specialists in space rocket technology for the republic.

Russia and Kazakhstan intend to resolve the question of Baykonur's military construction units as well. They are now under Almaty's jurisdiction—which has led to a sharp reduction in their complement from 30,000 to 5,000 and in officers from 2,500 to 600, to the curtailment of a number of very important jobs, and to

disturbances and revolts in the course of which considerable material harm has been caused to the cosmodrome.

Russia proposes transferring these units to the military space forces and turning them into repair and reconstruction units which will not only meet the needs of spaceflight development but also comprehensively serve the life of the city of Leninsk, the cosmodrome's center.

The problem of resettling from that city the 1,116 families of officers who have been transferred to the reserve is also no less acute. Precisely 759 of them are citizens of Russia, for whom it has allocated 40 million rubles for the construction of new housing. Precisely 35 are representatives of Kazakhstan, which also intends to construct housing for its citizens.

Ukraine and Belarus (they have 238 and 84 citizens respectively at the cosmodrome) have not yet allocated a single kopek for these purposes, and it is not clear where their people are to go and where they are to find shelter. Former officers and ensigns are not receiving pensions due to them.

These questions must be agreed on by the government delegations before the presidents of Russia and Kazakhstan meet. The meeting is planned for the very near future, Pavel Grachev said.

He also told journalists of another item of news for officers and ensigns. The Finance Ministry's planned suspension of a number of provisions of the Russian law "On the Social Status of Servicemen" and the 15-percent reduction in the military budget by cutting social benefits for servicemen have not been approved by the president and the prime minister. The law will be fulfilled in full.

CSCE Delegation Head on Estonian Conduct

PM3006081193 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jun 93 p 3

[Igor Melnikov report: "Timid Condemnation on the Lips. Question of 'Preventive Diplomacy'"]

[Text] Vienna, 28 Jun—Ironically, dramatic events are unfolding in the Baltics against the backdrop of the World Conference on Human Rights, events that boil down to a violation of the vital interests of national minorities. Typically, in Vienna, the first, quite clear reaction to the Estonian authorities' illegal actions came not from the halls of the "Austriacenter," where rights defenders are in session, but from the Hofburg Palace, the Vienna-based CSCE's place of work.

At the plenary session Ambassador V. Shustov, Russian delegation head, read out a Russian Federation Foreign Ministry statement drawing a conclusive picture to show how immediately after joining the Council of Europe the Estonian authorities began rigorously and at an accelerated pace paving the "legal ground" to force representatives of the Russian-speaking population out of the country.

"We said plainly that many European capitals are underestimating the danger posed by the aggressive nationalism that is gaining momentum in Estonia," the Russian delegation head said during a conversation with PRAVDA's correspondent. "However, things are moving in the direction of an acute ethnic conflict that will affect not only the Baltic region, but the continent as a whole. This behavior, when Estonia has been admitted to the Council of Europe, is being wrongly viewed by Tallinn, spurring it on to ill-conceived steps. However, Russia's patience is not infinite. We cannot watch unconcerned as Russian citizens and Estonia's Russian-speaking population become the object of nationalist experiments."

The Russian diplomat's concern is understandable and we can share it. It is hard to calculate how much has been said around the Vienna negotiating table about "preventive diplomacy." But the question raised in the Hofburg yesterday is just such a specific case. Or will the devotees of the "common European idea" wait on with timid condemnation on their lips when bloody clashes begin in Tallinn or Tartu between the local police and the Russian-speaking population?

Black Sea Fleet Ships To Fly Soviet Flags

LD0107083693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0815 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Ostanin]

[Text] Moscow July 1 TASS—In an attempt to avoid a possible showdown over the planned division of the Black Sea fleet between Russia and Ukraine, its commander, Admiral Eduard Baltin ordered all ships to raise Soviet naval flags on Thursday. Yesterday he sent a telegram to Black Sea fleet commanders saying "The (Soviet) naval flag was flown throughout World War II with honours and was never downed even in the most difficult battles".

The telegram also stressed that sailors should obey their commanders, not public and political organizations.

In May, some support ships of the Black Sea fleet hoisted St. Andrew's flags in protest against the unilateral transfer by the Ukrainian Defence Ministry of the ships under its jurisdiction. The call for raising on all ships the historical St. Andrew's flag, which was used by the Russian navy until the 1917 revolution, was voiced by officers at the Black Sea fleet headquarters on June 25 and then by participants at the all-fleet delegate officers' assembly, held in Sevastopol on June 29.

Black Sea fleet officers denounced the agreement signed by Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk in Moscow on June 17 and called upon the parliaments of both states not to ratify this agreement. Furthermore, they appealed to the Russian Supreme Soviet to take the fleet under Russian jurisdiction and to extend to it the operation of Russia's legislative acts and orders of the Russian Defence Ministry.

The Union of Ukraine's Naval Officers, in its turn, urged the two parliaments "immediately to ratify the Moscow accord between the Ukrainian and Russian presidents on the Black Sea fleet division", and in case of hoistening St. Andrew's flags by the ships, "to denounce all the agreements signed by Russia and Ukraine on the Black Sea fleet" and to expel from Ukrainian waters the ships flying Russian flags as belonging to a foreign nation.

According to Baltin, the Black Sea fleet command and the Military Council keep the situation on the fleet under their control, working jointly with the leadership of the Russian Federation and Ukraine to overcome outstanding problems.

Flags Raised on Vessels

LD0107102893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0955 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[Excerpt] Moscow, 1 Jul—Flags of the former Soviet Navy were hoisted this morning on all combat vessels of the Black Sea Fleet in connection with the start of the summer training period. The ITAR-TASS correspondent was informed at the Black Sea Fleet's press center that by 0900 the Russian St. Andrew's flag had not been hoisted on a single combat vessel.

This means that the command of the Fleet's units and formations has complied with the demand by Admiral Eduard Baltin, commander of the Black Sea Fleet, set out in a telegram dated 30 June. A day earlier, a general fleet assembly of officers' delegations called for the historic St. Andrew's flag to be raised on 1 July on all ships and vessels of the Black Sea Fleet, which would confirm the demand for the preservation of the fleet's unity and its transfer to Russian jurisdiction. [passage omitted]

Consultative Council Discusses Economic Union in Minsk

LD0107215793 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer Nelli Petkova] A sitting of the CIS Coordination-Consultative Council was held in Minsk today. The participants discussed the distribution between the republics of expenses connected with setting up a joint-production complex—the automobile works in the town of Yelabuga. One of the major issues on the agenda was a draft agreement on the economic union of the Commonwealth countries.

[Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin, chairman of the CIS Coordination-Consultative Council] There has been real progress, and—a characteristic fact—at this stage not only the governments are concerned with this issue but also deputies in many countries understand the need for processes of this kind and, apparently, are going to support their governments' steps in this direction.

[Petkova] Trade union heads from the border oblasts of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Moldova have approached the leaders of the Commonwealth countries today, demanding that an economic union within the framework of the CIS be concluded sooner. Their working meeting was held in Moscow today.

Shokhin on Outcome of Meeting

LD0107224593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2037 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By BELINFORM correspondent Aleksandr Lyushkevich for TASS]

[Text] Minsk July 2 TASS—Russian Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin has described a session of the Coordination-Consultative Council held in the CIS headquartres in Minsk on Thursday as "very resultful".

"Today we have discussed a draft treaty on the economic union, prepared at the level of experts, which had many

question marks reflecting uncoordinated issues, and many references explaning a special position assumed by some states. We have managed to remove practically all of these question marks and sepcial rerefences," Shokhin said.

"At present, we have a certain coordinated variant of a draft agreement on the economic union adopted at the level of deputy prime ministers in charge of relations within the CIS. We have worked out methods for further work," Shokhin said.

"On the one hand, there are grounds for optimism, but on the other hand, we clearly understood that states, joining the economic union, should partially give up their national sovereignty in some areas of the economic policy. Certain political resolutions should be adopted, including by parliamentarians of countries wishing to join the economic union, on the transfer of part of the sovereignty to a supernational level," Shokhin said.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 2 Jul

LD0207055293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0512 GMT 2 Jul 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow July 2—Moscow's press today gives broad coverage to the results of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's official visit to Greece.

Emphasising that the Russian Federation and the Hellenic Republic regard each other as friendly states, the newspaper ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI writes that this phrase from the first article of the Russian-Greek treaty of friendship and cooperation, which was signed in Athens, "epitomises most copiously the main result of the Russian leader's first official visit to that country." Especially since the political statement was shored up at once with "a package of 12 specific agreements" covering bilateral business links in a variety of areas of politics, the economy and culture.

The army newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA sets out Yeltsin's speech at a meeting with Greek businessmen. It singles out his statement that the country "has already passed the peak of economic crisis" and that "the Russian society has passed the test. The last nine months have witnessed stable signs of economic stabilisation."

The trade union newspaper TRUD published an interview with Yeltsin, which he gave to an ITAR-TASS correspondent during his visit to Greece. It put Yeltsin's statement that "one needs to rely only on one's own work and one's own economy" into the headline to this interview. According to Yeltsin, "the convocation of the constitutional assembly was a response to attempts to freeze the constitutional process in the country, to slow down and even to reverse democratic transformations."

As regards the Yugoslav crisis, Yeltsin noted that it cannot be resolved by the use of force. "A complex negotiating process is needed. But at the first stage it is necessary that bloodshed be stopped," Yeltsin emphasised.

The newspaper KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA observes in its commentary on Yeltsin's visit to Greece: "Greek businessmen unanimously confirmed that Russia may look at them as the most devoted partners who sincerely desire to help its citizens by specific deeds now that it is going through hard times."

PRAVDA features a report about Yeltsin's visit under the headline "Points of View Coincide". It singles out the statement in Greek Prime Minister's Konstandinos Mitsotakis's speech at a press conference held upon the results of the Greek-Russian talks, saying that "the Russian president's visit and the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation signal the beginning of a new epoch in bilateral relations."

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA prints the findings of a telephone poll of "eight major groups of the Russian establishment", represented in Moscow, on how they evaluate the Russian Government's work over the last six months. Among the respondents were Russian people's deputies, senior officials of 18 ministries and state committees, 25 federal services and the leaders of 33 political parties. As compared to February, "the average mark given to the Cabinet of Ministers in June on the whole appeared to be lower by 0.09 points. As against the April mark, it fell by 0.41 points on the five-point scale." The newspaper concludes that the Russian establishment's general attitude to the government is even somewhat worse now than it was at the very beginning of the year."

The same newspaper runs an interview with Russian parliamentary Defence and Security Committee Chairman Sergey Stepashin. Speaking, in part, about the divergency of views with American Senator Lugar, who declared for expanding the NATO bloc by admitting Hungary, Poland, Czechia and Ukraine to the alliance, Stepashin observed that "this was nothing short of creating a sanitary corridor around Russia." Another matter is cooperation with NATO: There are many prospects here, Stepashin said.

Further Reaction to U.S. Bombing of Iraq

'Domestic Considerations' Behind Raid

PM0107133393 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 3

[Vladislav Drobkov report under "Strike on Baghdad: World Reaction" rubric: "Language of Tomahawks"]

[Text] Washington, 30 Jun—The missile strike inflicted on Baghdad by the U.S. Navy Saturday night has reverberated loudly even in the United States itself. The majority of local commentators support the actions of the President, who issued the order to attack. Although many of them do point to the contradictory nature of the strong-arm action and to its inability to have a substantial impact on Saddam Husayn's policy. U.S. congressmen and a considerable proportion of U.S. allies at the United Nations have also approved of the strike against Iraq.

Nevertheless, after the first days of the ballyhoo over the triumphant communiques from the Pentagon and the White House, many people here are admitting that the true reason for the new show of force was not so much a desire to "punish Iraq" for its imputed attempt on the life of President [as published] George Bush in April of this year, but rather for more "domestic" considerations.

The chief reason was to strengthen the prestige and popularity of the new Democratic administration by showing its "decisiveness and toughness" in international affairs. By raining down 23 Tomahawk cruise missiles on the Iraqi capital, the White House certainly was not so much aiming at the Baghdad intelligence headquarters as bearing in mind President Clinton's dangerously low popularity rating.

The thing is that the President's so far unsuccessful attempts to secure congressional approval for his plan to reduce the budget deficit, his reneging on a number of election promises, a series of failures in the new administration's personnel policy, and its inability to knock together an international coalition to intervene in the Balkan crisis have led to a considerable drop in Clinton's prestige. No postwar U.S. president has ever before had such weak support among the electorate. According to public opinion polls, fewer than half of Americans now approve of Clinton's activity in his post.

As can be seen, it was precisely in its desire to reinforce the President's shaken prestige that Washington decided to resort to a proven method—a comparatively safe yet impressive strike against a foreign "enemy." In this case Iraq, the recently defeated adversary in the course of the short-lived Operation Desert Storm, presented the almost ideal opportunity.

As is known, several missiles missed the target. Many peaceful and quite innocent residents of the Iraqi capital were killed. In the opinion of a number of military specialists, this very attack was pointless, since it could not have seriously undermined the Iraqi regime and has, rather, the nature of a show of force. It is very significant that ex-President Bush himself, who was quickly approached by journalists, has angrily refused to comment on the missile strike on Iraq "in his honor."

Deputies Protest Raid, Russian Complaisance

PM0107150193 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 1

[N. Garifullina report: "Russian Parliament's Protest"]

[Text] The echo of the missile attacks on Baghdad had still not died away when Kozyrev's Foreign Ministry hastened, on behalf of the Russian leadership, to servilely approve the barbaric U.S. action as a result of which peaceful, totally innocent people died. "But the world must know," People's Deputy I. Andronov said at a Supreme Soviet session Tuesday [29 June], "that not everybody in Russia justifies the killing of the unfortunate Iraqis. Russia has another voice—it is the Supreme Soviet, and it has real people in it."

Most deputies who spoke at the session resolutely condemned both the U.S. bombardment of Iraq and the Russian Foreign Ministry's position. People's Deputy V. Isakov, who initiated the Supreme Soviet's consideration of this question, called this monstrous U.S. act "an act of state revenge and violence which poisons the international atmosphere and which could return the world to the times of distrust and mutual suspicion." Dagestan Deputy S. Dzhamaldinov's speech was permeated by bitterness: "Since childhood I have been used to being proud of our motherland, although I have not always agreed with everything. The USSR always resolutely condemned acts of aggression—and the strike on Baghdad is an act of aggression—but now Russia, starting last year, supports all the United States' whims..."

The Supreme Soviet protested resolutely against the act of international violence undertaken by the United States and stressed the need to solve even the most difficult problems by civilized political methods.

The Soviet of the Republic voted for the document Tuesday, the Soviet of the Nationalities did so yesterday. The Russian Federation Foreign Minister has been instructed to circulate this declaration at the United Nations as an official document.

White House Aide Cited on Technology Transfer, Aid

PM0107142993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jul 93 First Edition p 3

[Aleksandr Shalnev report: "West Intends To Lift Restrictions on Export of Technologies to CIS Countries"]

[Text] Washington—"Nice reports" will await Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who has been invited as an

observer, at the Tokyo meeting of the G-7 heads of state and government. They will concern the measures which the United States and other Western countries intend to take in order to ease or altogether remove the restrictions on commercial and scientific-technical exchange which were introduced back in the cold war era.

Answering my question, a high-ranking White House spokesman, who asked me not to mention his name, said that it is a question of both U.S. and multilateral restrictions—along the lines of the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls [COCOM], for example. The spokesman recalled that back in Vancouver President William Clinton had promised Boris Yeltsin to tackle a "review of the restrictions" in earnest and without delay. This review affects 50-60 diverse legislative acts just in America itself—the Russian president will be told of this at the Tokyo meeting 9 July. "This will be nice for Yeltsin."

A review, as far as I understand it from statements by the high-ranking official, is also taking place within the COCOM framework. Something "nice" awaits the Russian president here too. Unfortunately, the official categorically refused to report—even to hint at—the lifting of precisely which restrictions will be announced in Tokyo.

But, on the other hand, he was quite specific in his reply to my question about the present situation with regard to the $4 billion fund promised us in April to support the privatization programs. Recent statements by certain senior officials in the Japanese Government have given rise to doubts as to whether we will get to see this fund in the foreseeable future. To judge from statements by the White House spokesman, we will receive the fund, but not right away, and in a truncated form. Originally, he said, Washington's idea was to set up the privatization fund with a view to using it over several years. The amount was set accordingly—$4 billion—in which the U.S. share would amount to $500 million. But it has now been decided that the program will be designed for a shorter period—18 months, through the end of calendar 1994—and less than 4 billion will be allocated to it. Precisely how much? Approximately half of the initial estimate.

I asked the White House spokesman whether we could expect the G-7 to turn into the G-8 thanks to the addition of Russia. No, came the reply, this has not been mentioned and there has been no discussion of this; we believe that "the seven" must remain "the seven," but that it is "useful to meet with Boris Yeltsin at their summit conferences."

U.S. Carrier Group Late To Spot Russian Fighters

PM0107154993 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 1

[Colonel Mikhail Ovcharov report under the "From Our Newsdesk" rubric: "Russian Federation Air Force Combat Jets Detect Aircraft Carrier Group in Pacific"]

[Text] During a scheduled training flight in the western Pacific on 28 June, four Russian Air Force long-range aircraft crews in Tu-95K22 combat jets commanded by Pilots First Class Lieutenant Colonel V. Gudkov and Majors Yu. Kuznetsov, O. Fedorinov, D. Tsibikov detected a multipurpose carrier group led by the aircraft carrier Lincoln 1,200 km north of the island of Markus carrying out a passage in radio silence with all concealment measures being observed.

It was only after the combat jets had flown over the aircraft carrier that a couple of F/A-18 fighters were launched from its deck—which allows for the possibility that our aircraft's appearance over the formation was unforeseen. The crews carried out their flight mission in full.

Deputy Foreign Minister Receives Strobe Talbott

LD0107190993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1739 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Moscow, 1 Jul—Anatoliy Adamishin, Russian Federation first deputy foreign minister, today received Strobe Talbott, the U.S. President's special representative. The Russian Federation Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Department reported that they discussed topical international and bilateral issues in the context of preparations for the meeting between the Russian and the U.S. Presidents in Tokyo. U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering also participated in the talks.

Chernomyrdin's Postponed U.S. Visit Viewed

PM0207144793 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 93 First Edition p 4

[Mikhail Berger article: "What Prevented Chernomyrdin From Going to the United States"]

[Text] IZVESTIYA has already reported (No. 117, 25 June) that the U.S. visit of Viktor Chernomyrdin, Russian head of government, scheduled for the end of June, was canceled owing to disagreements between the sides at the stage of preliminary negotiations. In the last article we promised to provide a more detailed analysis of the disagreements which caused the visit to be called off.

There are at least three blocs of issues which were discussed but which remained open during the preliminary negotiations between the Russian and the U.S. sides in Washington. The first concerns extending the regime for monitoring the utilization of rocket technologies [RMRT] to Russia's relations with CIS countries. The second concerns the reciprocity of the U.S. and Russian pledges to provide information on contracts which have been concluded. The third concerns the possibility of having a transitional mechanism enabling Russia to revise within a certain time its old contracts in accordance with the RMRT.

Russia recently reached agreement with the EC on access to the market for space services. This is almost the only

achievement in the talks on cooperation with the EC, which are proceeding with extreme difficulty. But this agreement loses all meaning unless an accord is reached with the Americans. Practically all European, not to mention U.S. satellites contain assemblies made by U.S. firms, and a corresponding decision by the U.S. authorities is necessary in order to launch such a satellite from a Russian cosmodrome.

Thus, even Russian-European cooperation in the space sphere is bound up with Washington.

One of Russia's interim proposals consists in trying, to start with, to conclude a trilateral Russia-EC-United States agreement on this problem. This proposal has not yet elicited a response.

So the U.S. side demands that we extend the RMRT to our own relations with CIS countries. But the fulfillment of this demand places the Russian space complex in a very difficult position, since it developed as a single whole on the territory of the USSR and is tied technologically to the neighboring countries. This primarily means Ukraine and Kazakhstan. Without exports to Ukraine's "Yuzhmash" plant Russia could be left without the Zenit rocket. The Zenit, incidentally, is one of two basic Russian launchers (the other is the Proton) and, in the opinion of specialists, could continue in this role for another 10 years or so.

Russia is ready to subscribe to the RMRT, but with certain reservations, so sources in the Russian Government say. We recognize that U.S. space cooperation with NATO countries is in accordance with the RMRT, and the United States recognizes Russia's analogous opportunities with regard to the CIS. Russia itself must see to it that technology exported to the CIS is not utilized in violation of the RMRT.

The second "field of disagreements" concerns the reciprocity of commitments. The U.S. side demands that Russia provide all information on old contracts virtually right after signing the agreement (it is here that the Indian contract, above all, arises). The Russian side does not object to this, but wants symmetry, i.e. to receive analogous information from the United States and within the same time frame, as there are plenty of conditions in multinational corporations for an illegal leak of technologies. Russia is concerned, in particular, at the leak to Israel of production technology for the Arrow missile, which can carry a payload a distance of 300 km. But the U.S. side leaves our questions about this unanswered.

The third sphere of disagreement concerns the so-called transitional period. The Russian side raised it in connection with the fact that it will take some time to bring legislation fully into line with the RMRT. This could take some two years. It is possible to cope substantially more quickly with the corresponding instructions and other rules, but most importantly, time is needed to revise the old contracts with regard to their conformity with the RMRT. It is here that the contract with India arises, under which, according to unofficial data, we have already supplied 80 percent of the documentation and a significant proportion of the technology.

If the contract is canceled at once, Russia incurs large financial losses, as well as getting political complications.

In Vancouver President Boris Yeltsin raised the question of compensating Russia for losses in the event of the contract with India being torn up. An accord in principle was reached on this question. The compensation includes admitting Russia to commercial launches (12 launches over six years, each at a cost of $40-70 million). What this access means in practice is not an unconditional guarantee of the right to carry out launches but just the right to participate in bargaining.

Another form of compensation is a promise to admit Russia to participation in the construction of the international Freedom orbiting space station. But, first, Russia's participation in the Freedom project with the Mir-2 station will make it possible to save $2 billion, i.e. we are talking of mutually advantageous cooperation. Second, the U.S. Congress has not yet decided the question of funding this project.

Even with this option the Russian delegation at the recent working talks in Washington, which preceded the visit which will not now take place, proposed signing something like a protocol on these forms of compensation so as to make clear the earnestness of the U.S. side's intentions. The Americans demand: First annul the treaty.

But if it is not yet possible to reach agreement on space, what, then, was Viktor Chernomyrdin to do during the visit? This is not a very suitable time for protocol trips even to such a country as the United States. The Americans reply: It is possible to discuss cooperation in the energy sphere. But this sector is private business in the United States, and there is no official in the administration responsible for it.

In the end, the Russian side reached the conclusion that the prime minister's visit lacked any substantial point. Nevertheless, Moscow experts hope that it will be possible to find an acceptable solution before the end of the summer and that the visit might still take place nearer to the fall.

Yeltsin Announces Extension of Nuclear Test Moratorium

LD0207082293 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0700 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] In a brief statement to journalists, Russian President Boris Yeltsin has announced that he intends to extend the moratorium on tests of the nuclear weapons, which expired on 1 July. However, Yeltsin specified that moratorium will be extended only if other nuclear powers do the same.

U.S. Urged To Be 'Sensible' on Moratorium

LD0107141793 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

[Text] President Clinton is to announce shortly whether he is going to prolong the moratorium on nuclear tests. The U.S. Administration has no unanimous opinion about the moratorium. A few weeks ago the White House prepared a memorandum on resuming a limited program of nuclear tests with plans to hold six tests to check the state of American weapons and three at Britain's request before the year 1996. But it is reported that Washington has made a roundabout face [as heard] in its policy. Many now believe the United States must not be the first to resume tests. One thing is clear though: If President Clinton, despite the calls of the international community and the mood of many American legislators, announces even a limited program of tests, he will undermine America's prestige, which has already been damaged by the air strike on Baghdad. Reratification in 1995 of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty may be threatened as well. Also other nuclear states now refraining from nuclear tests will think twice.

It is reported that President Clinton intends to consult with key foreign leaders including the Russian President Boris Yeltsin and the leaders of France and Britain. Russia's stand is firm: it has not carried out nuclear tests for two and a half years and will not be the first to resume them. France has a similar stand. Britain wholly depends on the United States and Germany has repeatedly declared that the goal of its policy is a full ban on nuclear tests. So a lot now depends on President Clinton. Just recently the Clinton administration took an important step in reducing nuclear weapons by giving up the Star Wars program. Hopefully Washington will be as sensible this time.

Test Resumption Would Endanger Treaty

PM0107151593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 1

[Pavel Shinkarenko report: "Kicking the Nuclear Habit"]

[Text] For almost 50 years our planet has lived with the threat of nuclear war. It is not just from books that we know what that means: Chernobyl and the southern Urals before it showed the whole world the tragic consequences of a potential catastrophe.

Some 30 years ago after the Limited Test Ban Treaty was signed the Soviet Union, the United States, and Britain began carrying out only underground nuclear explosions. However, the world did not succeed in reaching an all-embracing ban on these experiments. Nevertheless, last summer, following the example set by Russia, which has not carried out tests for several years now, first the United States and Britain then France agreed to enforce a nine-month moratorium on these kinds of test. Moreover, a law adopted in the United States envisages that tests may be resumed after 1 July this year but only until 1996, when a universal ban on these tests will come into force.

Information from Washington indicates that the Clinton administration wants to carry out nine explosions during this period—six for the United States and three for Britain. But the opposition and the Congress are set against this project. The president is being reminded of what he said in his election program when he advocated an immediate, universal ban on nuclear testing. Incumbent Defense Secretary Les Aspin, as we know, also backs this idea.

But the situation has changed. The longed-for goal—a seat in the White House Oval Office—has been attained. Can he now back down so obviously on his previous ideals? Especially since that is what the Pentagon, the Energy Department, and three major federal laboratories engaged in that kind of scientific research are insistently urging. In order to reassure the "greens," the military is promising not to fit new devices on missiles already in the arsenal.

Nor is the strategic ally—Britain—which does not have its own base and is pressing for the resumption of the dangerous studies in the Nevada testing ground, letting up the pressure on the White House either.

Russia's stance on this is unequivocal: We will not be the first to start nuclear explosions. Statements from Paris indicate that France also cleaves to that principle. But if the current moratorium is broken on the initiative of Washington or London, Moscow will be forced to follow this example. And China, the only nuclear power to have disregarded the current ban, may be expected to step up its testing activity too.

One can easily guess what the result will be. The most dangerous thing is that it will be far easier for a number of countries which are close to joining the "nuclear club," from Iran and Iraq to North Korea, Pakistan, and Libya, to carry out their own programs and obtain information and the requisite materials from their secret suppliers. And another point. The resumption of underground explosions will weaken still further nonnuclear states' trust in the nuclear powers.

These fears obviously worried deputies at the European Parliament, which recently urged the United States, Russia, and France to extend the term of the moratorium. "We must do all we can," the parliamentarians stressed, "to make the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty permanent." A sensible idea. That seems to be the only way to kick the nuclear habit.

Yeltsin Interviewed on Relationas With Greece

LD0107131293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1110 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Athens, 1 Jul—Correspondent: Democracy was born in Greece 2,500 years ago. What do you feel here, at the birthplace of democracy?

Yeltsin: Yes, it is here that mankind first succeeded in formulating and implementing the great democratic idea. Democracy started its march across the globe from this land. And we see that now, by the end of the 20th century, those countries which implemented the ideas of democracy in the most consistent way have succeeded most in all the spheres of social life.

The beginnings of democracy existed in Russia, too, suffice it to recall the traditions of Novgorod veche [assembly]. But this idea did not become dominant in Russia, I believe, and could not become such in those conditions. For centuries, many generations of Russian citizens had absolutely no idea what democracy was.

There was yet another period, a very brief one, in Russian history when the country tried to follow the path of democracy, from February-October 1917. A Communist coup put an end to the people's striving toward democracy.

It is interesting, however, that the ideas of democracy are so strong that even the Communists did not dare to oppose them openly. Totalitarian dictatorship was covering itself with the fig leaf of "socialist democracy." The true face of this, so to speak, "democracy" was revealed in August 1991 when tanks were sent to crush Russian citizens' striving for freedom.

For almost two years since the putsch was defeated we have been on our way toward true democracy, and I will be frank, we have not arrived there yet. In the beginning, when euphoria reigned, many people thought that it was enough to destroy the CPSU and democracy would set in by itself. Reality has proved much more complex. After we started moving toward the market, not in words but in deeds, the policy of reforms encountered increasing opposition from the soviets. Whereas the CPSU was the first echelon of communist totalitarianism, the soviets have proved to be the second. Not everybody understood this at the time.

The Supreme Soviet is only a parliament in form. In actual fact, it is trying not only to implement its direct legislative activity, but to seize executive power, too. And the Congress of People' s Deputies does not recognize at all the basic condition for democracy—division of power—but is trying to concentrate all power completely in its hands.

Now we have been concentrating on the questions of elaborating and adopting a new Constitution of the Russian Federation. Through the Basic Law we have to strengthen democracy, destroy what remains of totalitarianism—and there is still a lot of it in our society.

I catch myself envying the Greeks. There may have been lapses, but for thousands of years, if not all the time, the country, the people, have understood what democracy is. And in the final analysis, everything depends on the people, on their experience. The fact that despite the hardships of the transition period, few speak out openly against democracy inspires optimism. I am convinced that Russia, which has for so long been moving toward realizing this idea, will not now turn from this path.

Correspondent: Greece is a major maritime trading power, but when people speak of Russia, for some reason they tend to think more of aircraft carriers... What do you think about this?

Yeltsin: I remember one of the meetings between the heads of the USSR and USA which was held on board a warship. This, I think, was symbolic for both countries who were developing the military sphere to the detriment of the civilian sphere. And that was particularly the case with the USSR. We could not fail to have inherited the burden of these problems.

You see the president of Russia not on a warship but a civilian vessel. That is the direction we are going in. Fewer military and more civilian ships. Incidentally, even now, Russia is a major maritime trading power. And it would be sin for Russia and Greece not to cooperate in this area. An intergovernment agreement on merchant shipping has been signed during this visit. This is a good basis for mutually beneficial cooperation.

Correspondent: Another agreement, on regional cooperation between Greece and the Black Sea regions of Russia, has been signed. What lies behind this agreement?

Yeltsin: Above all, the proximity of economic interests of this region and Greece. But not only that. There are about 90,000 ethnic Greeks living in Russia at present, two thirds of them in Krasnodar kray and Stavropol kray. The implementation of the agreement which has been signed will promote the preservation of the Russian Greeks' ethnic identity and facilitate contact with their historical homeland.

Correspondent: Your current visit to Greece is the first visit in history by a head of the Russian state to this country. How do you see the role of Russian-Greek friendship?

Yeltsin: We are linked by 1,000 years of history. The joint activities of Russia and Greece in the south of Europe have been fruitful for both countries and also for the continent as a whole. Greece occupies a strategically important position in southern Europe and cannot but influence the whole of European policy.

Zones of instability have appeared of late in southern Europe. Russia and Greece can do much to control the processes of the outbreak and development of conflicts in the south European region. We can and must act jointly, proceeding both from our historical experience and from the understanding that neither in the past nor present have Greece and Russia had any serious political

or economic differences. We have been created through history and present-day policy to be more than just partners, but also friends.

Correspondent: You have come from Moscow where the Constitutional conference is under way. What hopes do you connect with it?

Yeltsin: The convocation of the Constitutional Conference was an answer to the attempts to hamper the constitutional process in the country, to slow down or even turn back the democratic transformations. The main goal of the Constitutional Conference is to give dynamics to the constitutional process, to create the atmosphere of public concord around the key ideas of a new Russian Constitution and to suggest a realistic formula for adopting the main law. I hope that a successful conclusion of the Constitutional Conference will seriously bring us closer to adopting the Constitution without which it is impossible to stabilize the political and economic life in the country.

Correspondent: The role of every major leader is to give people hope and support. If you meet a Russian citizen in the street, who would ask you: "Mr president, what is there for a Russian citizens worth living for today?" What would you answer him?

Yeltsin: Earlier, during the communist regime it was instilled in Russian people that one should live for the sake of the victory of communism and world revolution, that one needs to love the party of communists and serve it. These were false goals and false values. Today I say to Russian people: One should live for personal happiness and well-being, one should live to teach and bring up children and to create the family's wealth. Today we have normal vitally important values—the family, the happiness of a country is made up of the wealth of its citizens. Our values are freedom, happiness, free labor and citizens' dignity.

Correspondent: If one focuses on the current economic crisis in the West, how much can one reckon on help from the West?

Yeltsin: We are interested in rapid and energetic assistance to overcome the difficulties of the transitional period from totalitarianism to a free economy more quickly. But we are completely aware that from a strategic point of view no assistance can save a huge country like Russia. First and foremost we should rely upon our own labor and on our own economy. It is not so much assistance that we need as fair conditions, with equal rights, in trade, the removal of all the out-of-date restrictions which have been left from the times of the communist regime.

Correspondent: After the fall of the socialist regime in Russia a revival of religious feelings is taking place. We have repeatedly seen you on television at services at the Cathedral in Moscow. Do you think that God can become a source of hope at this difficult time that the Russian people is experiencing?

Yeltsin: Orthodox belief was traditionally strong in Russia for 1,000 years. Even the extremely harsh persecution of the church under Soviet power could not eradicate it. The church is alive, belief is alive. Today there are tens of millions of believers in Russia and this number is continuing to grow. Young people are becoming believers. In Russia, the church is separate from the state, and the choice of belief or atheism is the personal choice of each person. As far as I am concerned, what I think, the moral values that were developed by orthodoxy do have a great force of attraction. Man needs belief in the triumph of good and truth. People need mercy too.

Correspondent: How, in your view, can a potential explosion of nationalist fervor be avoided?

Yeltsin: There are no miracle recipes. Nationalist fervor most frequently arises on the grounds of poverty, ignorance, and social division, in conditions of political instability, when borders are redrawn. There can be only one way: striving consistently for economic and social stability. In a rich and strong state it is easier to resolve many problems. National feelings should be manifested in culture and ethnic identity and the economy and people's lifestyles can be tinged with national colors. But there must be a legal barrier to nationalist fervor. The nationalist fervor of a narrow group of people cannot be allowed to conflict with the aspiration of millions of ordinary citizens of various nationalities to live in peace. I hope that the adoption of a new constitution, of which the Federation Treaty is a part, will facilitate the solution of nationalities problems in Russia.

Correspondent: What, in your view, is the reason for the impasse in former Yugoslavia? What possible solution could there be?

Yeltsin: The Yugoslav crisis has many causes, and many of them have historical and chronic nature. The legacy of the communist regime which instead of solving problems put the lid on them in Russia and Yugoslavia alike, is having its effect, too. The complex national map of Yugoslavia is one of the natural causes. All this requires a cautious approach. One thing is clear today: the Yugoslav crisis cannot be solved by force. A complex process of negotiations is needed. But for a start bloodshed should be stopped. The UN role is great here. Russia is not giving up its mission, either. I think it is high time for Russia to get more actively involved in solving the Yugoslav crisis.

Kostikov Says Visit 'Very Successful'

LD0107221293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2034 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Vladimir Malyshev, Gennadiy Talalayev and Viktor Khrekov]

[Text] Athens July 1 TASS—A new era begins in Greek-Russian relations—this is how analysts here view the results of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's official visit that ended on Thursday.

The visit, the first one at such a level in the history of relations between the two countries—continued for not more that two days but a good deal has been done. The most important thing is that the two countries signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation and also a number of agreements which will promote successful development of Greek-Russian partnership in all fields.

On Thursday Yeltsin met with Greek businessmen and called on them actively to cooperate with Russia. At the airport, he stated that that had been "a very interesting meeting". "It seems to me that much progress will be made in Greek-Russian relations", Yeltsin emphasised.

Shortly before departure, the Russian president had met with Andreas Papandreou, leader of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK), the major opposition party. Later on Yeltsin paid a farewell visit to Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Mitsotakis. Bilateral relations as well as international problems were discussed, just as during his previous meetings with the premier and with Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis.

"The visit can be regarded as very successful," Vyacheslav Kostikov, press secretary of the president of Russia, told ITAR-TASS. "There is a major breakthrough in Greek-Russian relations—the conclusion of a treaty of friendship and cooperation. This is a legal document with a great strategic perspective, which records the strategic community of many interests of Russia and Greece both in the world and particularly in the region, and is based on common cultural, religious and political traditions which have been bringing our two countries together for several centuries," he pointed out.

"We have come to realise that Russia and Greece should cooperate more precisely and dynamically in the solution of both European problems and particularly Balkan ones," Kostikov said.

"Greece as if invites Russian to participate in the Balkan politics more dynamically and effectively. [sentance as received] On the other hand, it is very important that Russia has won Greece's support in European affairs and in the solution of its no easy tasks in the European Community, where Russia is subjected to a certain discrimination economicaly.

"Greece, which will hold the Presidency in the European Community from 1994, has assumed a kind of moral and political obligations to contribute to overcoming these negative phenomena.

"The president of Russia and the Greek leadership are satisfied with the visit and it can be viewed as part of a more dynamic Russian policy. Russia is getting out of the period of certain self-isolation and begins to operate more actively both in the world and in Europe," the presidential press secretary said in conclusion.

Navy Command 'Distancing' Itself From Black Sea Fleet Issue

PM0107152593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Jul 93 First Edition p 1

[ROSSIYSKASYA GAZETA/ITAR-TASS report: "Fleet Will Not Be Divided in Two"]

[Excerpts] The Fleetwide Assembly of Officer Delegates of the Black Sea Fleet has deemed the transfer of the fleet to Russian jurisdiction the only option it finds acceptable. [passage omitted]

The Navy Command, according to our information, is so far distancing itself from events in the Black Sea Fleet, as the following fact testifies: Admiral Feliks Gromov, commander in chief of the Navy, will depart from Novorossiysk 12 July on a visit to Turkey. The patrol ship Legkiy, which is earmarked for this purpose, is at present in the Mediterranean, but belongs to the Northern Fleet. Formerly it was Black Sea Fleet ships that traditionally made visits to Turkish shores.

Yeltsin Affirms Adherence To Accords With Ukraine on Fleet

LD0107142793 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1350 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] An urgent report has just arrived. The Russian Federation [RF] president's press-service circulated the president's statement today, which says: Over the last few days, speculating on emotions certain Russian figures have made statements and calls aimed at whipping up the situation in the Black Sea Fleet and Crimea which is tense enough anyway. Having no right to speak on behalf of Russia or naval seamen, they are clearly pursuing mercenary private goals which have nothing in common with the interests of the fleet or homeland. In connection with this the RF president deems it necessary to state the Russian leadership's firm adherence to the accords attained with Ukraine during the top-level meetings in Dagomys, Yalta, and Moscow. The problems of the Black Sea Fleet will be solved in a civilized way, within the framework of dialogue with Ukraine, duly taking into account the views and interests, including social ones, of naval seamen and residents of Crimea and Sevastopol.

The RF President is confident that Black Sea Fleet seamen will not give in to provocations and, showing high responsibility and self-control, will maintain firm adherence to military discipline and will comply with orders of the fleet commander who is directly subordinated to the presidents of Russia and Ukraine."

Ukraine Border Areas Want 'Cooperation Zone'

PM0207104393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jul 93 First Edition p 4

[Irina Demchenko report: "Heads of Russian and Ukrainian Border Oblasts Pledge To Cooperate and Not Harm Each Other"]

[Text] The leaders of five Russian oblasts and five Ukrainian oblasts, which have become border oblasts following the formation of two independent states, have signed a number of joint documents in the presence of both heads of government. Government delegations and also the leaders of three other Ukrainian oblasts (Zaporozhye, Poltava, and Dnepropetrovsk) participated in the conference and in the elaboration of the documents.

A sociological poll was conducted recently in Belgorod Oblast (Russia), which borders on Ukraine. Precisely 85.3 percent of those polled regarded the formation of the independent states of Russia and Ukraine as an irreparable historical mistake. Some 80 percent of those polled hope that a return to the former relations between our states is still possible, 90.3 percent make a negative assessment of the closure of the borders, 54.7 percent consider that relations between the inhabitants of the border rayons have become more estranged, and 36.7 percent believe that interpersonal relations remain unaltered. Precisely 24.7 percent indicated that the division of the two states has significantly affected their personal interests, and 41.3 percent believe that it has affected them "very significantly."

More than 82 percent of the Belgorod Oblast inhabitants polled have close relatives—parents, brothers, sisters, children—left abroad, in Ukraine. The total length of the borders between Russia and Ukraine is 1,500 km.

The administration heads and oblast soviet leaders (in several Ukrainian oblasts—the president's representatives) signed an appeal to their states' presidents, Supreme Soviet chairmen, and heads of government. It points out, in particular, that the "intensive and unjustified" rupture of the historically established ties between the populations and enterprises of the two states has seriously harmed both sides and hit hardest at neighboring regions. "Industrial enterprises in the border oblasts had long-standing economic ties, economically advantageous to both sides. Agricultural enterprises used to cooperate closely and gave each other assistance in terms of equipment and people," the appeal states. "Big problems for enterprises and the population have arisen as a result of the lack of coordination between the financial systems—which has sharply complicated mutual transactions." The work of transport in the border regions has deteriorated because of the disruption of the previously unified transport network, and the crime situation has been complicated by a lack of coordination in the actions of law-enforcement organs and the scarcity of goods on both sides of the border.

The oblast leaders draw the attention of the states' leaders to the need to adopt as quickly as possible legislative acts which permit the creation of an economic cooperation zone embracing Belgorod, Bryansk, Voronezh, Kursk, Rostov, Donetsk, Lugansk, Sumy, Kharkov, and Chernigov Oblasts. The heads of local administrations demand to be given jurisdiction over questions of foreign economic cooperation and the exchange of output between enterprises located on either side of the borders, as well as the coordination of trade, cultural, medical, transport, and law-enforcement ties in the region.

A separate agreement, signed at this conference at the insistence of the oblast leaders by representatives of the central banks of Russia and Ukraine, consents to the opening of subaccounts in the border oblasts' cash clearing centers for direct interstate transactions involving payments by enterprises and organizations located there. An internation clearing house is to start working as early as 1 August.

In addition, agreements on cooperation between the two states' Ministries of Internal Affairs and an agreement on organizing crime fighting in the border oblasts have been signed, as well as documents governing relations in the spheres of environmental conservation and economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation. The latter, in particular, states that the leaders of neighboring oblasts, regardless of which state they belong to, pledge to pursue a concerted policy in the sphere of price formation and tariffs and to fund joint nature conservation measures.

The documents, which were signed unanimously and without any reservations or "dissenting opinions" by the heads of both the representative and the executive power in all 10 oblasts for a period of five years, contain a pledge to "refrain from actions that cause economic harm to the other side" and state that "the prosperity of one territory cannot be ensured at the expense of neighboring territories and without taking their interests into account."

I will remind you that almost exactly two years ago the heads of the independent republics of Ukraine and Russia and also eight other republics put their signatures to just the same pledges. But that economic union, whose expediency appeared to be obvious, did not come about. Maybe now that it has been achieved through suffering, now that those same state leaders, under pressure from the economic crisis and from public opinion, are leaning more and more clearly toward the need for a union and regions of contiguous countries have started concluding agreements on their very own initiative, there really will be an economic union.

Protection of Russian Residents Abroad Urged

PM0107114793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jun 93 First Edition p 7

[Vladimir Kuznechevskiy commentary: "Moscow Must Protect The Rights of Russians Abroad"]

[Text] The Law on the Status of Foreigners adopted by the Estonian State Assembly 21 June has caused quite noticeable tension in relations between Russia and that Baltic republic. This is primarily because it affects the civil and personal rights of the Russian and Russophone population living there. To be more precise, the law discriminates against those rights

Out of Estonia's 1.5 million population this law affects almost 500,000 people, all of whom are declared undesirable elements who must be placed under public police supervision and who may themselves be subjected to forcible expulsion from the country (ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA gave a detailed account of the content of this law in its 23 June issue).

All the Russian-speaking population of Estonia has become agitated. On 28 June the city soviet in Narva (where around 93 percent of the population consider Russian their native language) adopted a decision to hold a referendum 16-17 July on the question: "Do you want the creation of a special administrative territorial national okrug on the territory of Narva?" And on 23 July a session of the city soviet will adopt a decision based on the results of that referendum.

There is no need to guess at the significance of this action. The examples of the Dniester region, Nagorno-Karabakh, and other regions of the former USSR show quite graphically what the position adopted by the Tallinn authorities could lead to. The Estonian leadership calls the Law on Foreigners "the most magnanimous and liberal law in Europe." It emerges here that there are several hundred thousand Russians in the country whom the Estonians regard as foreigners even though they were born there, and they are saying that if these Russians want to live in the republic they must follow a certain procedure. But which one? The law answers that question.

People who do not possess Estonian citizenship must submit an application for permission to live in the republic within two years. If the applicant is not given a residence permit or citizenship then in accordance with the law he may be deemed an illegal immigrant and deported from Estonia.

This is all reminiscent of something. Very much so.... Oh yes, in Hitler's Germany, Jews were required to undergo a similar procedure as undesirable elements. Surely we are not witnessing a recurrence of that kind of thing? In the late 20th century?

Ostensibly the Law on Foreigners does not divide inhabitants of Estonia on national grounds. This outward appearance enabled Estonian Prime Minister Laar to state recently that the law corresponds to international norms and Estonia is thus ready to submit it to the examination of the Council of Europe.

Indeed, why not do that? The European Community already has experience of the solution of ethnic conflicts—Yugoslavia, the Dniester conflict, and Nagornyy Karabakh. Now it can add the Estonian conflict to that list.

The present leaders of Estonia are quite consciously and clearly pursuing a course of creating a monoethnic state. Furthermore, they are even beginning to say that they would like to unite part of Pskov Oblast to Estonia. Well, there is no law against wishing. The only question is: Will Russia agree to this?

While in no way expressing solidarity with the policy of the national radicals, it should nevertheless be noted that in their racist reasoning they are trying to exploit demographic trends which are actually occurring in the republic. In 1959, the proportion of the indigenous population in Estonia was 74.6 percent but in 1980 it was 64.7 percent. The proportion of ethnic Russian inhabitants in that period rose from 20 percent to almost 28 percent and, together with Ukrainians and Belarusians, amounted to 32.1 percent. If you consider that from 1965 through 1986 the natural growth of the population in the republic was negative and only reached plus 1.8 in 1988 (in the main, of course, this relates to Estonians) the picture that emerges is quite alarming (even in Russia the natural growth of the population in the year in question was 5.3 percent, and that is one of the lowest indicators in comparison with all the remaining republics of the former USSR). However, it should be kept in mind that if the national radicals' policy toward the Russian-speaking population is going to continue to bear the character of state genocide, this small republic with its population of 1.5 million people may well become mono-ethnic.

In that case its population may diminish in absolute figures because it is not impossible that cities with a Russian-speaking population will simply "separate" from it because of this policy. And second, there cannot ultimately be any hope that Russia will maintain normal, good-neighborly relations with Estonia when it sees such a hostile attitude toward its fellow countrymen. Under pressure of public opinion the Russian Government simply cannot remain an indifferent observer of the persecution of Russians in Estonia.

It seems that the tough line shown by Moscow recently to the Law on Foreigners adopted in Tallinn (take the statement of the Russian President and the Supreme Soviet and the actions of the Foreign Ministry and the government leadership) has had its impact. According to information from Tallinn, Estonian President Lennart Meri has postponed signing the Law on the Status of Foreigners. According to a Radio Liberty report, he has postponed ratification until he has acquainted himself with the opinion of international organizations.

The main conclusion which may be drawn from this fact is that Moscow has at its disposal arguments which the Russian leadership can use to protect the interests of Russians living outside our country. It only needs the will to put these arguments into effect, something which the Russian leadership does not always have. I should like to hope that the example of the Law on the Status of Foreigners in Estonia will be a turning point and become a permanent feature of Russian foreign policy.

Kozyrev Protest to Council of Europe on Estonian Laws

PM0107163193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 93 First Edition p 3

[Yuriy Kovalenko report: "Andrey Kozyrev Urges Council of Europe To Halt 'Ethnic Cleansing' in Estonia"]

[Text] Strasbourg—The Czech and Slovak Republics have been admitted to the Council of Europe, which now has 31 states in its ranks. Meanwhile, the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly has stressed the need to constantly monitor the situation in those countries in the sphere of human rights and the rights of ethnic minorities.

Incensed that Estonia, after its admission to the Council of Europe, has adopted discriminatory laws on elections to organs of local self-government and on foreigners, laws aimed against the Russian-speaking population, the Council of Europe parliamentarians unanimously adopted a special resolution which could set an important precedent.

According to this resolution the participation of delegations from the new Council of Europe member states in the work of its Parliamentary Assembly is dependent on pledges by those countries to observe human rights and the rights of ethnic minorities. The fulfillment of these pledges will be verified once every six months by the appropriate commissions.

As your correspondent has learned, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has sent Council of Europe Secretary General Catherine Lalumiere another letter in which he expressed his extraordinary concern at the situation in Estonia.

The facts set out in the letter have had a definite response at the Council of Europe headquarters. Furthermore, in the lobbies there today many diplomats and deputies are acknowledging that the admission of Estonia was a mistake or, at least, an example of excessive haste. But, at the Council of Europe, part of the blame for that is being laid at the door of Moscow, which, seeking to block Estonia's entry, tried to put "intolerable pressure" on this organization. As a consequence of that, Russia achieved the opposite of the result that it wanted.

The Estonian authorities, Kozyrev's message says, have perceived the Council of Europe members' positive attitude to the republic's admission to your organization as a "blessing" for their course of ethnic cleansing in the republic. The Estonian leadership's policy in this respect has become tougher. That is demonstrated by the two recent laws on elections to the organs of local self-government and on foreigners.

We are forced to state, A. Kozyrev stresses, that Strasbourg is not paying due attention to the actions of the Estonian national radicals.

We expect, the Russian minister concludes, the application of the corresponding Council of Europe procedures and mechanisms for the purpose of conducting a more fundamental legal appraisal of Estonia's legislation in the sphere of human rights to protect the nonindigenous population from aggressive nationalism and an apologia of "ethnic cleansing."

Estonia Begins Repaying Debt to Russia for Gas

LD0107154893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1325 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Gordeyev]

[Text] Moscow July 1 TASS—On Thursday Estonia begins to repay its debt to Russia for the supply of natural gas. For this purpose, the government of the Baltic state uses the recently received foreign credit of five million deutsche marks, a well-informed source in the Russian Gasprom joint-stock company told ITAR-TASS. According to the company, all settlements are to be made before July 10.

Estonia was the first of the three Baltic states, which are indebted to Russia, to react to the suspension of the supply of the fuel. The governments of Latvia and Lithuania still keep silent, Vyacheslav Sheremet, Gazprom first deputy chairman, told ITAR-TASS.

It must be recalled that the supply of Russian gas was fully suspended on June 28. The enterprises of the republics, whose daily requirement is 25 million cubic metres, will operate only until using up all the gas contained in the shut-off gas trunkline.

Protocol Signed With Lithuania in Kaliningrad

LD0107201793 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 1900 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] A Lithuanian-Russian protocol on further economic cooperation between the two states has been signed. The document was signed by Lithuanian Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius and Russian Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray, in the city of Svetlogorsk in the Kaliningrad region of Russia. According to the protocol talks between the governments of the two states should begin on 15 July, after which the parties intend to sign an inter- state agreement on trade.

The Russian deputy prime minister said that the leaders of the Russian Ministries of Transportation [as heard], Fuel and Power Engineering, would be commissioned to meet Lithuanian officials from corresponding institutions to settle mutual debts between the two states.

Lithuania owes Russia $43 million dollars for natural gas, while Russia has not paid for electric energy supplied to the Kaliningrad region of Russia. At today's meeting the Lithuanian prime minister assured Russian officials that Lithuania would cover half of its debt to Russian suppliers in two weeks. In his turn the Russian deputy prime minister promised to make efforts that natural gas supplies be resumed to Lithuania.

Kebich, Chernomyrdin Sign Economic Agreements in Moscow

WS0107120693 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0300 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Negotiations between Russian Prime Minister Chernomyrdin and his Belarusian counterpart Kebich ended with the signing of three agreements on mutual obligations on the use of the ruble [R]—Russian currency—as the sole legal tender on the territory of Belarus, on intergovernmental credit based on the results of the trade and economic links in [words indistinct], and on the intergovernmental 1993 credit.

In Moscow, the intergovernmental Russian-Belarusian negotiations are over. The delegations of the two countries were headed by Prime Ministers Viktor Chernomyrdin and Vyacheslav Kebich. Russia will earmark R70 billion for Belarus for the second half of 1993. After the document-signing ceremony, Kebich told the journalists: The negotiations are marked not only by the signing of documents but also by mutual understanding. The issues of the share of big Belarusian enterprises in the development of the Russian oil industry and deliveries of goods were discussed as well. We must urgently sign the treaty on the economic union between Russia and Belarus within the CIS framework. At the same time, the CIS should remain stable, Kebich added.

Moldovan Envoy to Moscow Stresses Troop Withdrawal

LD3006220493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2031 GMT 30 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow July 1 TASS—Anatol Tsaran, Moldovan ambassador to Russia, suggested that the 14th Russian Army should be withdrawn from his country as soon as possible.

Political consequences of the crisis in the Dniester region could be eliminated after the withdrawal of the army easily, Tsaran said addressing a press conference here on Wednesday.

According to Tsaran, the possibility to preserve good relations between Moscow and Chisinau, however, still exists, irrespective of the terms of the withdrawal of Russian units.

Touching upon the results of the last round of the Russian-Moldovan talks, Tsaran noted that the two parties still differed in their approaches to "synchronizing" the withdrawal of troops and political settlement of the conflict.

Russia attaches great importance to the political settlement of the conflict, while Moldova is interested primarily in having Russia withdraw its troops before July 1, 1994.

The ambassador emphasized, however, that the conflict had given Moldovan leaders a lesson that thoroughly changed their mentality.

Nowadays they believe that one cannot resolve internal problems by military means, he said.

After the conflict was settled, the Moldovan president would issue a decree on amnesty to participants in the clashes in the Dniester region, he said alluding to his meeting with President Mircea Snegur.

Touching upon possible status of the Dniester region, Tsaran said that Chisinau was ready to entitle the region to broad rights of self-government but would not accept "segmentization" of the country.

Rights of Servicemen Protected in Former USSR Armies

LD0107212293 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Nearly 70 percent of officers and warrant officers in Kazakhstan's Army are citizens of Russia. In order to prevent their mass exodus from the republic, the Russian side has made necessary amendments to the Law on Conscription and Military Service. As the KAZTAG Information Agency reported today, the head of Kazakhstan's parliament has today received from his Russian counterpart a response to his proposals for changes to be made in the Russian legislation on the conditions of military service for the citizens of the Russian Federation in armies of the former USSR republics.

From now on, the law will ensure that Russian citizens undergoing their military service on the territories of the former USSR republics will continue, as servicemen, to enjoy legal rights envisaged by the Russian laws, until 31 December 1993.

UN Vote on Bosnia Reveals Splits in Western Consensus

PM0107155193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jul 93 First Edition p 3

[Maksim Yusin report: "UN Security Council Has Refused To Lift Embargo on Weapons Deliveries to Bosnian Muslims"]

[Text] On the evening of 29 June, after a five-hour debate, the UN Security Council rejected the draft resolution submitted by nonaligned and Islamic states on lifting the embargo on deliveries of weapons to the Bosnian Muslims. For the first time since the start of the Yugoslav crisis a split has appeared among the Western allies: The United States voted in favor, while France and Britain abstained.

Russia, as was only to be expected, also abstained. Moscow categorically objects to the lifting of the embargo and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has not concealed the fact that, if there were even the slightest chance that the resolution might go through, the Russian representative would have used his right of veto. This was not necessary, however.

The support of at least nine Security Council members was required for the resolution to be adopted. Those in favor of lifting the embargo were three votes short, with Pakistan, Morocco, Venezuela, Cape Verde, and Djibouti voting in favor in addition to the United States. Russia, France, Britain, China, Spain, Brazil, Japan, Hungary, and New Zealand abstained.

By ostentatiously supporting the resolution, which was doomed to fail, the White House repudiated the joint declaration on a settlement in the former Yugoslavia that the heads of the U.S., Russian, French, British, and Spanish diplomatic departments adopted in Washington on 22 May. At the time the five states declared their negative attitude toward lifting the embargo. The fragile consensus reached by the great powers with tremendous difficulty has been canceled out.

Justifying her country's position, Madeleine Albright, U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, declared that the embargo plays into the hands of the aggressor (i.e. the Serbs) and that the Muslims must be given the opportunity to defend themselves, since the efforts of the international community have proved ineffective. France and Britain disagreed with those arguments. In their opinion, deliveries of weapons to the Muslims will lead to a new flare-up of military operations and to the internationalization of the conflict. It is easy to understand the fears of Paris and London when you consider that there are 6,300 French "blue helmets" and several thousand British ones in Bosnia.

Moscow, which refuses to send its own servicemen to Bosnia, cites similar arguments. In addition, Russian diplomats bear in mind (although they do not say so publicly) the fact that lifting the embargo will alter the correlation of forces to the detriment of the Serbs.

The vote in the Security Council attests to the emergence of new trends in the world community's approach to the Yugoslav crisis. The great powers just cannot work out a concerted position. The United States is expressing ever greater readiness to act on its own, without tying itself by any pledges to its West European allies or Russia. The consequence of this could be a reduction in the role of the United Nations and the CSCE and, in the final analysis, a curtailment of the international community's peacemaking efforts. Particularly as the majority of European states have evidently given their tacit agreement to Bosnia's territorial partition in accordance with the Serbo-Croatian scenario.

More Compensation Sought for Troop Withdrawal From Germany

LD0107214493 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Correspondent Vladimir Kondratyev] A little over a year remains until the complete withdrawal of our troops from Germany—an operation, top military officials like to stress, which is unprecedented in scale. It would seem that everything had been agreed and arranged between the Western Group of Forces and the German side but it turns out that there are still quite a few problems now.

At a meeting of the joint commission in Bonn, the leadership of the Western Group of Forces again raised the question of financial compensation now for part of the property left behind, in particular in those 500 military townlets which were handed over to the Germans before 16 December 1992—that is, before Kohl and Yeltsin adopted the zero option in Moscow. The Western Group of Forces considers that this property does not come under the Moscow agreement.

According to our estimates its cost is 3.7 million Deutsche Marks. This additional sum could be used to house the homeless families of officers and non-commissioned officers. But the Germans are opposed to such an approach to an existing agreement. It is very doubtful that in the present financial situation Germany will give us something extra.

Meanwhile, as Colonel-General M. Burlakov [commander in chief of the Western Group of Forces] said at the commission, the withdrawal of troops is proceeding according to schedule. The program has already been three-fourths fulfilled. But this cannot be said about the housing being built using German money and the money provided by our state.

There was discussion at the commission of the question of the crime situation and corruption in the Western Group of Forces. Burlakov said that the German side had no particular complaints but there were many complaints being voiced in Russia itself.

[Begin Burlakov recording] I think that a very true and good reply was given by the head of the president's monitoring directorate, who spent 20 days checking us with a large commission that examined all the matters raised by the vice president, and all the matters were not confirmed. [end recording]

Interior Minister Yerin Meets Austrian Counterpart

LD2806132793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1226 GMT 28 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow June 28 TASS—Russian Interior Minister Viktor Yerin has met with visiting Austrian Interior Minister Franz Loeschnak on Monday to coordinate measures on combatting crime in the area of economy and illegal migration.

Yerin informed his Austrian counterpart about the criminal situation in Russia. Both ministers voiced satisfaction at stable and fruitful contacts between law-enforcement bodies of the two countries. An agreement on mutual legal aid is expected to be signed in the near future.

The two ministers met with journalists and answered their questions.

BBC Viewed as Possible Model for Russian Media

PM0207112993 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 2

[Dmitriy Lvov report: "The BBC's Boss Is the State: Perhaps That Is Why It Is the Most Authoritative Independent Corporation"]

[Text] Can a state TV and radio company be independent? Marmaduke Hussey, chairman of the BBC, answers this question in the affirmative. This independent status has been won by the work of generations of journalists over the entire 60 years of the famous radio station's history. "There is a custom in Russia—to listen to the BBC at night," and this popular folklore shows best of all the British radio station's services to the democratic rebirth of Russia. But today too, the BBC, which is cooperating with Russian television and radio, plays an important role in the exchange of information by giving an impartial outsider's view of events taking place in our country. That point was made at a meeting at the British embassy in Moscow between leaders of the Russian mass media and BBC chairman Marmaduke Hussey.

Our journalists wanted to know how the corporation manages to build harmonious relations with both the government and parliament. "We are renowned for our impartiality throughout the world," the chairman said. "Of course this impartiality is relative—one politician may consider our position impartial, another may consider it unobjective to say the least. But they both understand that radio and television cannot satisfy all tastes. It takes long-standing traditions of democracy to instill that understanding." It is a pity that our young parliament cannot grasp that simple truth.

"We have a Board of Governors appointed by the government," Hussey went on, "but at the same time it does not have the right to tell us what to do and what not to do. So it is a state corporation but remains independent."

We need to study this experience closely. After all, the idea is being put forward at a high level here today that there should be no so-called state mass media in the country. Only then will there be true independence, it is said. But the British experience convincingly shows us that there is only one source of independence—high professionalism and responsibility.

Mikhail Fedotov, Russian minister of the press and information, took part in the meeting at the British embassy.

Greenpeace Vessel Expelled From Russian Territorial Waters

LD0207110593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1049 GMT 2 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow July 2 TASS—The vessel "Moby Dick", belonging to the Greenpeace organization, has been expelled from Russian territorial waters by Russian border guards on Friday, ITAR-TASS learned from the Russian Border Guard press service.

The vessel was detected by north-west naval border guards early in the morning. It was heading for St. Petersburg at the invitation of the St. Petersburg mayor's office. However, all of a sudden, the vessel changed its route and went into the area of the water discharge of the Leningrad nuclear power station.

Three inflatable rubber boats were put out from the vessel and sailed into the water discharge channel of the nuclear power station. Nine members of the crew went ashore, where they were detained by Russian border guards.

The captain of the vessel has been accused of sailing into a forbidden area and letting people go ashore in an unauthorized place in violation of the Russian law on the state border.

The Moby Dick has left Russian territorial waters.

IMF Grants 1.5 Billion Dollar Credit

LD0107170593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1505 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Matyash]

[Text] Washington July 1 TASS—The board of directors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) decided on Wednesday to give a credit of 1.5 billion US dollars to Russia. This is the first part of the promised aid to the

Russian Government within a programme of the IMF for to help states with the former centralized planning systems.

The IMF stressed that this step would have a crucial importance to the success of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's reforms". According to the Associated Press information agency the IMF decision was welcomed by the US Administration which "considers the support of Yeltsin as an important part of its foreign policy".

The IMF decision means "firm approval" of economic reforms, which are conducted by the Russian Government. This is a vote of confidence to Russian President Boris Yeltsin and his democratic transformations based on market economy, according to Lloyd Bentsen, secretary of the treasury of the United States.

"The board of directors appreciated the declaration on economic policy, which was sent by Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, and Viktor Gerashchenko, chairman of the Russian Central Bank to the IMF," Konstantin Kagalovskiy, Russian director of the IMF told TASS. Such recent measures as an increase of the Central Bank interest rate up to 140 per cent, free coil prices, encouragement of import subsidies, caused special satisfaction. We intend to receive the second part of the credit, another 1.5 billion dollars, by the end of the year. To get it we shall have to fulfill our own promises about boosting Russian reforms", he said.

Official Calls For Implementation of Promised Western Aid

LD0107123393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1041 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow July 1 TASS—After the Tokyo summit of the Group of Seven major industrialized powers, the West should get down to practical implementation of its projects for assistance to Russia's reforms, Sergey Chesnoy, a senior executive at the Russian Foreign Ministry's department for economic cooperation, told TASS on Thursday.

He reminded that the main aspects of these projects, including the creation of funds for promoting small and medium-size business, privatization and structural overhaul of Russia's economy, were agreed upon already in April at the meeting of the G7 countries and Russia at the foreign minister level. Participants in the forthcoming Tokyo summit are expected to discuss the volumes and mechanisms of operation of the said funds. According to the Foreign Ministry official, Russia needs not relief, but assistance in carrying out economic reform, so that each dollar granted by the West could serve exactly this purpose.

Chesnoy noted that for a year Russia had been working in close coordination with the G7 member states. According to him, "We do not need just a protocol, nor can we afford ineffectual meetings".

Contrary to the last year's meeting, which was designed to help the major industrial powers get to know Russia better, at the Tokyo summit Russian President Boris Yeltsin is expected to tackle not only economic issues, but the principal problems of international policy as well.

The Foreign Ministry executive cited as a necessary and important move the establishement of a G7 executive bureau in Moscow, which is also to be discussed in Tokyo. Chesnoy believes that this bureau should necessarily include Russia's representatives.

G-7 States Agree to Reduced Privatization Fund

PM0107131793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jun 93 First Edition p 4

[RIA NOVOSTI/INTERFAX report: "The Seven Have Decided To Help Again"]

[Text] The G-7 countries have reached preliminary agreement on the creation of an assistance fund of $500 million for privatization in Russia.

This was announced by Japanese Foreign Minister Kabui Muto at a symposium in the Japanese capital. He noted that Tokyo is planning to contribute $100 million to this fund from the $1.82 billion package of aid to Russia promised to it by the Japanese side in April this year. The idea of creating the fund was put forward in April by the United States. The project envisaged that the G-7 countries would allocate $2 billion to this fund. A similar sum will be made available by international organizations. In Muto's words, however, the size of the fund will be reduced because of opposition from Japan and the European members of the G-7.

Churkin, Saudi Ambassador Discuss Bosnia Situation

LD0107144293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1415 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Jul—Vitaliy Churkin, deputy foreign minister of the Russian Federation, received 'Abd-al-'Aziz Muhyi al-Din Khawjah, ambassador of Saudi Arabia, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today. The main topic of conversation was the situation in Bosnia. This conversation continued a series of working contacts on the part of the Russian Foreign Ministry relating to finding a peace settlement in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Talks were held in Moscow recently with the foreign ministers of Yugoslavia and Croatia. It is thought that fresh meetings will soon be held here with representatives of

the Muslim leadership of Bosnia, in which the Muslim side itself is showing an interest.

The ITAR-TASS special correspondent was told today by a source in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, that Moscow has "a positive assessment" of the decision by the third party in the conflict at the meeting in Sarajevo to put forward initiatives for settling the crisis. We believe, the source said, that if the initiatives from the Muslim leadership are along the lines of the earlier proposals which acquired the name of the "Serbo-Croat plan," this could help to "break out of the vicious circle of conflict" and move on to solve the problem.

Commentary Lauds Iran's Drug Policy

NC0107131993 Moscow Radio Moscow in Persian 1330 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Vladimir Pronin commentary]

[Text] According to a UN decision, 26 June was marked throughout the world as the day of the fight against drugs and against drug-related crime. The Islamic Republic of Iran plays an important role in this fight. An emergency plan for the fight against the plague of the 20th century has been approved in Iran and is being successfully implemented. Within the framework of this law, the national Anti-Narcotics Headquarters [ANH] holds regular meetings. During its last session on Saturday, the ANH published some figures on the outcome of the fight against drug trafficking in 1992. Our commentator Vladimir Pronin writes in relation with this:

In the report published by the national body in charge of the fight against drug-related crimes it was announced that throughout last year law-enforcement forces arrested 80,530 drug smugglers and confiscated 66 tonnes of drugs.

What can one say? These are spectacular figures. It is impossible that any other country in the vast Middle and Near East can boast about such an outcome. But it is understandable that this is only a small part of the narcotics manufactured in the so-called Golden Triangle which, addition to the Islamic Republic of Iran, also includes Iran's eastern neighbors Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Actually the cultivation, distribution, and smuggling of drugs are adopting threatening dimensions in these two countries. According to UN figures, this year poppy has been cultivated on 6,000 hectares of land in Pakistan which will yield 180 tonnes of opium. The situation in neighboring Afghanistan is even more disturbing. Poppy has been cultivated on tens of thousands of hectares of land and very cautious estimates show that this area of land will yield more than 2,000 tonnes of opium. A large part of this opium is taken to Pakistan, from where it is carried via Iranian territory to the so-called Balkan highway and from there to Europe and America.

However, a considerable quantity of narcotics remain in Iran, where there are about 2 million addicts. On the basis of strict laws, which were introduced in January 1989, anyone found to carry more than 36 grams or more than five kg of opium is executed. Iranian officials pay great attention to controlling all major drug routes from Afghanistan and Pakistan, to setting up border posts, and to cultivating other agriculture products in poppy fields in the eastern provinces. As pointed out in the report published on Saturday, last year a total of 70 police posts and 140 border control posts were set up.

All these steps yield results. However, today the dimensions of the trade of white death are such that no country in the world is able to confront the international drug mafia, which [words indistinct] on its own. Coordinated efforts by all the countries that suffer from this social plague is necessary. Otherwise, heavy losses, namely human losses, will be inevitable. For example, since early 1989 some 369 personnel of the Iranian law-enforcement forces and of the Islamic Republic Guards Corps have been killed and 467 wounded in armed clashes with the drug mafia.

An interesting point is that some time ago activists of the drug mafia proposed to the Iranian leadership to (?allow the transit) of drugs via Iranian territory, in which case the war against Iran would be halted. However, as pointed out by Majles Speaker Nateq-Nuri, the fight against the drug mafia is a religious and revolutionary duty and no compromise is possible. In other words, the fight against drug trafficking in Iran has been upgraded to the level of state policy.

All countries will genuinely benefit from the successes scored by Iran in the fight against drug smuggling. Extended support to Iran, including financial support, would benefit all countries that are involved in the fight against this destructive plague.

PLO Envoy Meets Russian Deputy Foreign Minister

LD2506220193 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 25 Jun 93

[Text] Brother Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of the PLO Executive Committee, met with the Russian deputy foreign minister and the head of Middle East Department at the Russian Foreign Ministry, in the presence of brother Dawud Barakat, Palestine's ambassador to federal Russia. During the two meetings they exchanged views on various current political issues, in particular the peace process in the Middle East and the bilateral talks process, especially its 10th round currently ongoing in Washington and the obstacles impeding the progress of these negotiations.

During the talks they also discussed issues of interest to Palestine and Russia under the preparations for the upcoming UN General Assembly session and also the issue of the meeting of the multilateral peace talks' steering committee in Moscow.

Turkish Military Delegation Begins Moscow Visit

PM2906155193 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jun 93 p 3

[Untitled Russian Federation Air Force Press Center report under the "Official Announcements" rubric]

[Text] A Turkish military delegation led by Colonel General Ali Gyullyu [name as transliterated], chief of the main staff of the Turkish Air Force, arrived in Moscow 28 June.

During a five-day visit, the guests will meet with leading Russian Air Force personnel. They will visit the Kubinka Air Base, the Air Force Museum in Monino, a center for training cosmonauts, and the Moscow Aviation Production Association. They will also see the sights of the Russian capital.

Khabarovsk Officials Protest Illegal Chinese Fishing

OW0207052393 Vladivostok Radiostantsiya Tikhiy Okean Maritime Network in Russian 0715 GMT June 93

[From the "Pacific Ocean" Program]

[Text] The Khabarovsk Kray administration has protested to Heilongjiang authorities about illegal fishing by Chinese fishermen in Amur River border waters. The sides have signed an agreement according to which they were obliged to maintain common fishing rules and refrain from fishing during the spawning season. However, while the fishermen of Russian Amur region ceased fishing for the spawning season between 10 June and 15 July, the Chinese citizens intensified their fishing. What is more, banned multihook fishing gear and deep trawling nets have been used. Border guards and inspectors of Amurrybvod [Amur Oblast fishing administration] are not able to drive the Chinese fishermen from all Russian territorial waters. The kray authorities intend to demand that signed agreements and definite fishing quotas for both the Russian and the Chinese fishermen be upheld and that measures for controlled fishing be enforced. Russian specialists believe that only through these measures can Amur fish resources be preserved.

Ministry Halts Radio Irina Broadcasts to Vietnam

PM3006103193 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jun 93 p 6

[Viktor Pritula "Travel Notes": "Self-Immolation Outside Temple of Heaven Pagoda"]

[Excerpts] Hue—[passage omitted] Approximately a week before I arrived in Hue the charred corpse of a man was discovered outside the Temple of Heaven, the city's most famous pagoda. [passage omitted]

The 30th anniversary of the self-immolation of bonze Thiet Quang Duc occurred recently. Now elevated to the ranks of the holy martyrs, he committed this act in protest of the Saigon regime's repression of buddhists. [passage omitted]

Coincidence number one: The suicide of depressed peasant Dao Quang Ho occurred very close to the 30th anniversary of the self-immolation of Thiet Quang Duc. At the time that act sparked a powerful wave of protests against the regime of Ngo Dinh Diem. Today some people would like to use the death of Dao Quang Ho as a detonator for new actions, this time against people's power.

Coincidence number two: the deceased man's mental state. What if the unfortunate man had been encouraged to commit self-immolation by a buddhist priest promising him nirvana?

Let me cite a document which also appeared close to the time of these events and can therefore be quite rightly ranked as coincidence number three. It has an extremely curious title: "Moscow Declaration on Democracy and Human Rights in Vietnam." It transpires that here in Russia we have some kind of association fighting for democracy and human rights in Vietnam. It is a pretty militant organization if you take into account that its participants include high-ranking officials of the former Saigon regime who have made repeated attempts to carry out large-scale subversion in Vietnam with a view to overthrowing the system in existence there.

One of them is Vo Dai Ton. Having escaped from Vietnamese justice (the Ho Chi Minh City trial of his subversion group generated a lot of publicity in the early eighties), he unexpectedly turned up in Moscow and read out the above-mentioned declaration on Radio Irina.

It contains an appeal to the United Nations and "the democratic governments of the world" to put pressure on the SRV and to all Vietnamese to rise up and fight for freedom—that is, against the existing system. If we call things by their proper names, the meeting held by the association and the document adopted at it is nothing but an anti-Vietnamese action conducted on Russian soil and broadcast over the international airwaves from here.

It is possible that not all our readers know what Radio Irina is. It is a private radio company utilizing Russian state broadcasting's technical facilities abroad (for good money, of course). It is headed by Irina Zisman, in the recent past a great friend of socialist Vietnam, about whom Dinh Phong, deputy director of the Ho Chi Minh City television studio, told me: "I just can't understand it: Ira used to love us all so much!"

Well, it's a thin line between love and hate. In Russian today you can buy or sell anything, including convictions. We have boundless freedom of conscience, after all!

Incidentally, things have not been too good for Radio Irina recently. Why? Have the reforms in Vietnam worked? They have. Is the local currency stable against

the dollar? Yes again. And what about foreign investments coming in, production growth, and the rice harvest? Everything is fine here too. So it was decided to go for religion.

Vietnamese society and the buddhist church in Vietnam are currently steamed up about the exposure of the faking of the spiritual testament of bonze Tich Don Hau, an honest man and a patriot who headed South Vietnam's buddhists for many years and experienced the torture chambers of the Saigon regime. After his death a year ago a group of bonzes composed a fake testament with a view to seizing the leadership of the country's buddhist church and causing a split between buddhists in the North and the South. They have now been exposed, and it transpires that two of them were priests at the Temple of Heaven in Hue. Could this be yet another coincidence or chance?

...At two in the afternoon, bathed in sweat, we went on a tour of Hue's historical sites. [passage omitted]

I recall the sly face of a stone royal retainer in one of the burial vaults we visited. In the heat I even imagined that, winking slyly, he might be saying: "I know a royal secret but I will stay dumb as stone." Sculptures cannot speak, but living people can cloak a quantity of truth with such a layer of lies that try as you might you can't subsequently work out where the truth lies. The people who work for the private radio company Radio Irina have mastered to perfection this art of keeping their patrons' secrets.

This is the unexpected twist to my tale of the once royal but now provincial center of Hue.

Editorial note: When this item was being prepared for printing information was received on a Russian Ministry of Communications directive halting [priostanavlivat] Radio Irina broadcasting to Vietnam. It is to be hoped that there will now be one less irritant in our relations with Vietnam.

Decline in Korean Peninsula Role Regretted

PM0207133793 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 3

[Article by Yevgeniy Aleksandrov under "Thought-Provoking Diplomacy" rubric: "A Shortsighted Policy. Reflections on Relations Between Russia and the DPRK"]

[Text] Russian diplomacy has taken yet another step toward the deterioration of its already cool relations with its Far East neighbor, the DPRK. Russia's chief aim in the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry foreign policy blueprint as far as the DPRK is concerned is to bring about the "inevitable estrangement" from that country. What this means in diplomatic language is reducing cooperation with North Korea to zero. On the other hand, the task has been set of establishing "full-scale relations" with South Korea.

In the history of international relations over recent decades you are unlikely to find another case where the government of a state has set itself the task of causing a deterioration of relations with another state, let alone a neighbor.

We have alrady made great strides in the attainment of this "aim." We have effectively become alienated from the DPRK and mutual distrust is increasing. The 1961 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance has become a fig leaf, although the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry did say that the document "retains its full validity and remains an important element in military and political stability on the Korean Peninsula." There followed statements of varying importance by top Russian officials to the effect that the treaty was "washed up," that it should be "annulled or significantly amended." As a result the treaty is virtually dead. Contacts have been broken off between our countries' peoples, exchanges in the political, cultural, and other spheres of public life have effectively ceased, and economic cooperation has been reduced to the minimum.

There is now a very great deal that divides Moscow and Pyongyang—from the internal processes in our countries to foreign policy issues. Of course, the central question is the DPRK's nuclear activity and its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], although this withdrawal has been suspended for the time being. Without a doubt, Pyongyang is obliged to fulfill its commitments under the treaty and the monitoring agreement with the International Atomic Energy Authority [IAEA]. This is indisputable. But the question is what did Russia do to ensure that its neighbor did not jib, did not renounce its membership of the NPT but continued to cooperate with the IAEA until the nuclear issue was finally settled.

Russian diplomacy, unfortunately, did not choose the best methods— threats and pressure, often acting in conjunction with the Americans. As a result our relations wit Pyongyang suffered a major setback. What we got from the North Korean side in return was a whole serious of charges to the effect that Russia had "joined in the criminal pressure by the enemies of the DPRK." In the DPRK press Moscow is accused of losing face on the Korean Peninsula, of wanting to join the United States in "putting an end to socialism in the North." Pyongyang will no longer even hear of Russian assistance or participation in a Korean settlement. They simply do not trust us. In other words, in the North Koreans' eyes, Russia is on a par with the United States. There is just one difference: Pyongyang would like to arrange contacts and improve relations with Washington.

The DPRK is hard at work seeking ways of normalizing relations with the United States and is conducting a political dialogue with it in that area, and with some success. A meeting that ended in New York the other day adopted a joint statement declaring the general principles of mutual relations between the DPRK and the

United States (respect for sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs, no recourse to force or the threat of force, etc.) and there was backing for the idea of the peaceful unification of Korea. Pyongyang declared that it had suspended its decision to withdraw from the NPT. It was agreed to continue diplomatic contacts, but North Korea is deliberately treating Russia with indifference, making clear that it is Washington rather than Moscow that is important to Pyongyang today.

All this is the logical outcome of our shortsighted policy on the Korean Peninsula, our one-sided orientation toward Seoul. Certainly it is necessary to have normal, friendly relations, to develop mutually advantageous cooperation with the Republic of Korea. But this cannot be done to the detriment of Russian-North Korean relations and of the general situation on the peninsula.

Certainly, relations between Moscow and Seoul have progressed of late. Since last November's visit to South Korea by the Russian Federation president cooperation between the two countries has been placed on a qualitatively new legal footing: A treaty on the principles of relations and a number of major mutually advantageous agreements are being implemented. There has been intensive development of political contacts: 1992-1993 there have been visits by presidents, foreign ministers (three times), parliamentary speakers, and so on.

Trade and economic links are widening. The volume of bilateral trade was $800 million last year. There are 24 joint ventures in operation, and 23 major economic cooperation projects have been agreed. But it has to be admitted that these projects are being implemented too slowly. South Korean capital is deterred by the political instability in our country. It must also be borne in mind that the South Korean economy is in a difficult position at the moment: The foreign debt is increasing, industrial output is falling, and products are becoming less competitive. So, to be frank, it would be rash to expect substantial South Korean investments.

Military-technical cooperation has begun between the Russian Federation and the ROK. For the first time in the history of the joint U.S.-South Korean Team Spirit exercises (they have been held since 1976) a representative of the Russian Armed Forces was present at the maneuvers as an observer. A South Korean military delegation has been to Russia.

The development of Russian-South Korean military links is giving rise to apprehension in North Korea. Pyongyang regards Russia's military cooperation with the ROK as a destabilizing factor on the peninsula, "increasing the danger of a war in Korea." Even Beijing has drawn attention to the military aspect of Russian-South Korean relations. A PRC Foreign Ministry spokesman issued a warning in this connection, stating that "interested parties (that is, Russia) must make an effort to further reduce tension and stabilize the situation on the Korean Peninsula."

Of course, not everything is so rosy on the Russian-South Korean horizon. Seoul cannot "forgive" the Russian side in connection with the embarrassment over the black box from the South Korean airliner shot down over Sakhalin in 1983. Nor can the South Koreans forget the Korean War, persistently demanding that the Soviet Union's true role in the conflict be exposed.

Although the creators of Russia's foreign policy blueprint claim that we are now linked to South Korea by a "common understanding of the basic values of world civilization," one would warn against overly optimistic judgments. No, gentlemen, the creators of the blueprint—it is all much more complicated. South Korea has been U.S.-orientated for a long time and looks to it in its foreign policy—whether in regard to the DPRK or in regard to Russia. Remember Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu's recent visit to Washington. On leaving for the United States he talked of the need for "restraint" in relation to the DPRK (on the nuclear question), of the need not to overdo it, although after returning from the U.S. capital the tone of his pronouncements was tougher and now resembled the U.S. approach to Pyongyang.

Russia, weakend by internal crisis and the failure to solve acute problems in "nearby foreign parts" [reference to former USSR republics], cannot really expect to be among the countries with which South Korea would want a special relationship. The only thing Seoul has succeeded in doing is saying many "fine" words about Russia's influence on the DPRK. Although our positions in Korea have not strengthened as a result. Russian policy in the Korean sphere has practically ceased to be an independent and imnportant factor in a Korean settlement.

It is quite clear that it is in the Russian state's long-term interests to have good-neighborly relations with both parts of Korea. You cannot build a relationship with one at the expense of the other. A political axiom, you might think. But, as we can see, the makers of Russia's current foreign policy course do not understand this, or, rather, do not want to understand it.

One is bound to agree that the unification of the DPRK and ROK would benefit Russian interests and strengthen stability on the Russian Federation's Far East borders, but there are two independent states on the peninsula at the moment and one has to build good relations with each of them. If relations with one—the DPRK at the moment—are practically in a state of crisis, it will not increase stability on the peninsula itself, and that goes for our borders as well. We should not artificially encourage Korean unification. It is necessary to create the prerequisites to enable this process to evolve, peacefully. But the deterioration of Russian-North Korean relations and Moscow's curtailment of political, economic, cultural, and other links with Pyongyang do not bring the unification of Korea nearer but make it more remote and contribute not to the stabilization but to the deterioration of the situation on the peninsula and throughout Northeast Asia. It is time we finally realized

that our Korean policy should serve Russia and its people, and not be a makeweight for the capitalist course of the United States and its allies.

Deputy Foreign Minister Begins Visit to Bogota

LD0107064993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0614 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Kanishchev]

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 1 Jul—Development of economic relations between the two countries is the main aim of the visit to Colombia by Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Mamedov that began on Wednesday. He will hold consultations on this subject with the heads of the Foreign Ministry and with representatives of the business world of the Latin American republic. The Russian representative visited Cuba and Venezuela earlier.

Mamedov said, in a conversation with the ITAR-TASS correspondent, that our task is to urge on the processes developing on the new basis of economic cooperation and to create a political foundation for expansion of mutually advantageous private business ties between Russia and Latin American countries. He said that he intends to urge the Colombian authorities to jointly overcome the bureaucratic and juridical obstacles to deepening economic cooperation between the two countries during the course of the political consultations in Santa Fe de Bogota.

Concerning the outcome of the talks held earlier in Havana and Caracas, Mamedov noted their constructive character and similar emphasis on development of economic relations.

New Ambassador Appointed to Argentina

PM0107135993 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jun 93 p 2

[Unattributed report under the "Official" rubric: "Appointments"]

[Text] Ya.A. Burlyay has been appointed the Russian Federation's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Argentina.

Lobov Replaces Nechayev on Foreign Cooperation Bodies

PM0207111393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jun 93 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Lobov Replaces Nechayev"]

[Text] On 20 June Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Council of Ministers, confirmed by government decree the appointment of Oleg Lobov, his first deputy and Russian economy minister, as chairman of the Russian sections of the Standing Consultative Council of the Russian Federation and the FRG on Economic, Scientific and Technical, and Cultural Cooperation and the Intergovernmental Russo-Italian Commission on Economic, Industrial, and Currency and Financial Cooperation, and relieved Andrey Nechayev of his duties in these posts.

Political Issues

Council of Ministers Presidium Meets 1 Jul

LD0107220393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1205 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Jul (TASS)—At the behest of Boris Yeltsin the Presidium of the Council of Ministers today considered progress in the fulfilment by Russian Federation ministries and departments of the tasks envisaged in the president's decrees and orders and the government's resolutions and orders.

According to the data of the department monitoring implementation of the government's decisions 160 tasks remained unfulfilled by ministries and departments as of 18 June this year. They included 28 tasks contained in presidential decrees and orders, 90 tasks envisaged in the Council of Ministers' resolutions and orders, and 42 tasks from the chairman of the government. The largest number of unfulfilled tasks remains at the Ministry of Finance (24 tasks in all, including 16 contained in government resolutions), the Ministry of Economics (15 tasks in all and 11 contained in government resolutions), and the State Committee for the Management of State Property (15 tasks in all and six contained in government resolutions).

As a result of the discussion, the state of implementation of tasks by individual ministries and departments was deemed to be unsatisfactory. Viktor Chernomyrdin harshly criticized the deputies of the finance and economics ministers and the chairman of the State Committee for the Management of State Property for not observing executive discipline and delaying work on carrying out presidential and government tasks and the work of dealing with letters and appeals from enterprises and citizens.

Today's meeting also considered a list of government legislative initiatives, which it is proposed to submit for the consideration of the seventh session of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet in August to December this year. It contains 34 draft laws including a draft Russian Federation Civil Code and draft laws on the legal mode of ownership of state and municipal enterprises, military-technical cooperation with foreign countries, and the republic's budget for 1994.

Security Agencies Program Adopted

LD0107194393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1802 GMT 1 Jul 93

[BY ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow July 1 TASS—The presidium of the Russian Government, at its meeting on Thursday [1 July], adopted a state programme for a stage-by-stage solution to matters concerning material and technical support for the operational activities of internal security agencies in 1993-1995.

The programme is aimed at "bringing the provision of internal security agencies with up-to-date technical means up to a standard which would make it possible to carry out operational and investigation tasks at contemporary level", Interior Minister Viktor Yerin said when presenting the draft programme.

Giving reasons for the need to adopt such a programme, the minister emphasised that the insufficient material and technical provision of law enforcement agencies adversely affects the effectiveness of operations to counteract crime: "By the scope of the provision of technical means, internal security agencies lag behind criminal groups considerably".

Thus, the provision of the agencies with operational and criminalistic facilities is now about 55 per cent and that of means of communication—about 82 per cent, at a time when criminals have no difficulty in acquiring the newest security systems, armoured cars, bullet-proof vests, means to protect communications networks, covert surveillance systems, etc. Internal security agencies also experience an acute shortage of special armaments, criminalistic facilities and a motor vehicles.

The programme provides for a wider scope of financing the acquisition of armoured vehicles, means of communication, criminalistic facilities and other resources. Special attention is given to the development of promising specimens of armaments, special and criminalistic facilities, which by their characteristics excel the existing domestically-produced and foreign analogues, and the provision of units of internal security agencies with them.

Overall expenditure for the implementation of the programme is estimated by the Interior Ministry at 3,882,400 million roubles, including that from the republican budget—at 3,092,600 million roubles (out of the amount, 1,104,900 million roubles in 1993, 976,100 million roubles in 1994 and 1,011,600 million roubles in 1995).

During the discussion, all participants in the meeting supported the draft programme. Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, who presided over the government presidium meeting, said "criminals should not be allowed to be equipped better than the Interior Ministry personnel".

He emphasised that the country's leadership would support internal security agencies financially as well. At his suggestion, the government presidium decided to hold an enlarged session of the Interior Ministry collegium at the end of August, with government members participating. The ministry was instructed to prepare a number of specific measures to step up action against crime and report them at the collegium session.

Ministers 'Scolded'

MK0207095693 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 2 Jul 93 p 3

[Nikolay Podlipskiy report: "Council of Ministers Presidium Session. Chernomyrdin Subjects His Deputies to Criticism"]

[Text] During yesterday's Council of Ministers Presidium session, members of the cabinet discussed the situation resulting form the constant failure by many ministries to carry out instructions of the president and the government. The cabinet head, Viktor Chernomyrdin, scolded his deputies, an act seen by observers as the premier's seeking compliance at least at the level of central ministries and agencies. The presidium session also looked at drafts of a federal program for the preservation and development of culture, and a program of financial and technical support for Russia's internal affairs bodies.

Yesterday's session of the Council of Ministers Presidium examined four questions. Culture Minister Yevgeniy Sidorov reported on federal programs for the preservation and development of culture. Internal Affairs Minister Viktor Yerin presented a state program for stage-by-stage solutions to the questions of financial and technical support for Russia's internal affairs bodies' operational activities. The presidium members then discussed the situation resulting from the constant failure by many ministries to carry out president's and government's instructions. The session also gave general approval to a list of Council of Ministers legislative initiatives to be submitted to the scrutiny of the seventh session of the Supreme Soviet.

Unlike the drafts of federal programs considered earlier, the program for the preservation and development of culture does not call for funds over and above the more than 100 billion rubles envisioned by the expenditure budget. On the insistence of the minister of culture, however, members of the government agreed with the proposals to exempt cultural institutions from taxes and obligatory sale to the state of hard currency, and to lower the rates of payment for the use of public utilities for them. Besides, it was decided to look, within 10 days, into unfreezing the accounts of the Russian Intellectual Property Agency held by Vneshekonombank. According to agency director Andrey Semenov, the total sum of fees in hard currency remaining unpaid to 140,000 Russian authors runs to nearly $18 million.

The program for the reequipment of Ministry of Internal Affairs forces calls for substantial financial resources—3.8 trillion rubles over three years. A successful war on crime, however, is one of the most effective means of projecting a favorable image of the authorities in voters' eyes. Therefore, members of the government gave their general approval to the program's technical aspect, and decided to go back to its financial part after all the ministries have submitted their expenses investment programs, and updated budget figures have been finally confirmed.

Enhanced compliance discipline is one of the chief demands Viktor Chernomyrdin is making on the work of the government. The premier, nevertheless, could not fundamentally turn the situation around in six months. By the start of June, the agencies dragged their feet on 204 presidential and governmental instructions. Curiously, after the compliance discipline question was added to the agenda of the presidium session at the president's initiative, the agencies' work went into high gear—44 instructions were carried out in the space of two weeks. The harsh criticism from Chernomyrdin may also add up to yet another argument for the removal of First Vice Premier Vladimir Shumeyko, who was supposed to keep tabs on timely compliance with cabinet decisions in his post of head of the Monitoring Council. Observers point out in this connection that Shumeyko went on vacations all of a sudden just before the presidium session which, according to the apparatus rules, nearly always signifies a near change in the official position.

Khasbulatov Called 'Calamity' Threatening 'Security'

LD0107134093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1252 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow, 1 July—At a time when the Russian Supreme Soviet press service is blowing up a scandal over the "refusal to make available" to Ruslan Khasbulatov an aircraft for his trip to Penza, Buryatiya, and Novosibirsk, Sergey Filatov, the head of the Russian president's office, in an interview for an ITAR-TASS observer today, threw light on this artificially inflamed incident.

"The fact of the matter is that the Chkalovskiy military airfield, from where the leader of parliament intended to leave for his official visit, is not intended for civilian transportation and the resources there are limited," Sergey Filatov pointed out. Vnukovo-2 airport is provided for working trips of leaders of state power structures. "In the event of planned working trips using the special on-board facilities of airliners, Prime Minister Chernomyrdin and other state leaders check with the president. However, the chairman of the Supreme Soviet does not extend this sense of order, which is needed in all things, to himself," the head of the president's administration said.

In the opinion of Sergey Filatov, the leadership of the Supreme Soviet makes use of any pretext for confrontation with the executive structures of power and with the president's apparatus. In particular, today Aleksandr Kotenkov, head of the State legal directorate, was not allowed into the Supreme Soviet building.

Sergey Filatov considers that the undeserved insults that were voiced against Marshal of Aviation Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov yesterday at the session of the Supreme Soviet during the procedure for confirming him in the post of responsible secretary of the Russian Security Council were a particularly disgraceful case of deliberate confrontation. "To accuse this respected man of treason shows a total loss of morality," Sergey Filatov stressed. He expressed complete solidarity with the former commander in chief of the CIS forces.

In connection with the confrontational steps taken by parliament during the Constitutional Conference and the disbanding of a number of Supreme Soviet committees on the personal initiative of the speaker, the head of the presidential office warned that "Khasbulatov is becoming a national calamity whose destructive activity is threatening the security of Russia."

Grachev Comments on Aircraft Ban

LD0107210293 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Report by V. Luskanov, including recorded remarks by Defense Minister Pavel Grachev; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Luskanov] [passage omitted] Pavel Grachev, who is now at Baykonur, had this to say about the incident:

[Grachev] The president gave me an instruction to forbid the granting of the right to all officials of the government and the Supreme Soviet to be transported by military transport aircraft. The no. 235 separate aviation unit stationed at Vnukovo and Sheremetyevo airports exists for this purpose. It is specially appointed to fulfill these aims.

[Luskanov] In an ITAR-TASS interview today Sergey Filatov, head of the president's administration, expressed the conviction that the Supreme Soviet is once again going in for deliberate confrontation with the executive power. As yet another example of this he cited the insults addressed to Marshal of Aviation Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov at the Supreme Soviet session. As is known, inside the walls of parliament Shaposhnikov was accused of treason and was not confirmed in the post of secretary of the Security Council. This took place a few hours before the cancelling of Khasbulatov's planned flight. Khasbulatov had had unobstructed use of the services of the Chkalovskaya military airport for three years and the Supreme Soviet had punctually paid the expenses for these flights.

The Information Television Agency became an unwilling participant in the scandal. Initially, what was clearly an awkward slip of the tongue by the presenter of yesterday's "Novosti" program about the ban on using aircraft for official trips for personal aims served as a pretext for a statement by the head of the parliamentary press service in which he accused Ostankino of trying to cast aspersions on the country's leaders. However, it would seem that no professional mistake by a journalist could compromise the country's leadership more than the endless war of words between the White House and the Kremlin.

Opposition Deputies Urge Yeltsin To Sack Kozyrev

LD0107161393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1414 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Yuriy Filippov]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Jul—Russian People's Deputy Ilya Konstantinov (co-chair of the National Salvation Front and one of the leaders of the "Russian Unity" opposition bloc of parliamentary factions) has read out to journalists an open letter from a group of deputies to Russian President Boris Yeltsin in which they request the latter to dismiss Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev. The accusation they make against the minister is that over the three years he has been in the post Russia's role in the world has weakened considerably.

Konstantinov reported that should the Russiasn president refuse or remain silent, the matter of the resignation of the foreign minister will be proposed at the Supreme Soviet session.

Vice President Rebuts Corruption Accusations

PM0207122593 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 2

[Russian Federation people's deputies' undated question to Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy followed by Rutskoy's undated reply under the "Kremlin Correspondence" rubric, respectively headed "Dacha Question" and "Don't Look There"]

[Text] [Deputies' question] MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI No.19 for 1993 and other publications have informed their readers of your construction of a private dacha near the village of Razdory in Odintsovskiy Rayon, Moscow Oblast.

The construction of a house 17.4 meters square with an underground four-car garage, sauna, swimming pool, and independent boiler house does not come cheap. By the most modest estimates 400 linear meters of concrete fencing alone cost over 1.5 million rubles [R].

Bearing in mind your statement to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet about the modest conditions of your dacha life, we request that you inform us as to the grounds of the legislative act under which you have been allocated inheritable life possession of a one-hectare plot of land and as to the departmental affiliation of the organizations whose resources are being used to erect this expensive construction. (Signatures follow).

[Rutskoy reply] To G.V. Gorelov, V.G. Kuzmin, A.P. Manannik, V.N. Travnik, and S.F. Zasukhin.

Dear People's Deputies!

On 28 June this year I received a deputies' question signed by you on the question of the construction of a home in Odintsovskiy Rayon, Moscow Oblast. In the question you refer to an item in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI No. 19, 1993. I would like to tell you the following regarding this question.

The article cites a number of factors which distort the real state of affairs. First of all it is not a question of constructing a dacha in the said rayon but of constructing a dwelling house for me and members of my family (my wife and two adult children) in which I intend to live permanently.

In this connection I have informed the leadership of Odinstovskiy Rayon, Moscow Oblast of my willingness to surrender my Moscow apartment to the stock for needy inhabitants for possible allocation to a large family.

In relation to the plot of land which your question describes as having an area of one hectare, I report that the total area of the plot on which **three homes** are being constructed is 0.75 of a hectare, that is, the plot on which my house is being constructed equals 0.25 of a hectare. In relation to the house's area of 17.4 meters by 17.4 meters, your data are correct.

I also draw your attention to the fact that at present only the construction of the said building's foundations has been completed, so I completely fail to understand on what basis you state that it allegedly has a four-car garage, sauna, swimming pool, and independent boiler house. Unfortunately, the construction has been practically frozen at present because representatives of the Russian Federation president's bodyguard, Security Ministry, and Internal Affairs Ministry are putting direct pressure on the constructors and are carrying out periodic checks of the construction organization, which is carrying out the work in accordance with a legally registered agreement.

I can report in addition to this that the construction materials were acquired by me in 1990-1991 at the Mozhaysk House Construction Combine and at other construction organizations, for which I have the appropriate receipts. Your estimate of the fence at a whole R1.5 million was therefore possible only as a result of the well-known liberalization of prices begun on 1 January 1992.

Realizing that the main part of your question is taken up with the problem of the grounds on which the plot was allocated, I want to draw your attention to existing Russian Federation legislation.

First of all I mention the Russian Federation Law "On Land Reform," Article 4: "Land for carrying out private subsidiary and peasant farming, truck farming, and livestock raising, and land attached to buildings and installations for individual entrepreneurial activity and the construction and maintenance of a dwelling house, dachas, and garages can be transferred to the private, individual ownership of citizens."

As you know, I am a serviceman, and my total length of labor service currently totals 45 years (27 years unbroken service to the motherland in the Armed Forces); in accordance with Article 17, Paragraph 3 of the Russian Federation Law "On Servicemen's Status," servicemen whose total length of military service is 15 years or over "are given free ownership or free inheritable possession for life of plots of land...**of 0.25 of a hectare in a rural location according to the chosen place of residence** by the organs of state power and administration and by the organs of self-government."

At the same time I want to remind you that I am a Hero of the Soviet Union and in accordance with the Russian Federation Law "On the Status of Heroes of the Soviet Union, Heroes of the Russian Federation, and Full Holders of the Order of Glory" (Article 5, Paragraph 4) I have the opportunity to receive the free ownership of a plot of land for construction of an individual house **with an area of 0.30 of a hectare in a rural location**. Furthermore, I have **similar privileges** as a serviceman who participated in combat operations in Afghanistan.

It was in full accordance with the said legislative acts that Moscow Oblast's Odintsovskiy Rayon Soviet adopted the relevant decision based on my personal statement. I would add that I have never concealed my actions from anyone and have registered all documents in my name and not in the name of front men, as many people in the top echelon of power do.

I deeply regret that the Russian Federation people's deputies who signed this question are not aware of the contents of these legislative acts, for which, incidentally, they themselves voted in the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet. In addition I draw your attention to the fact that you were apparently in such a rush to send your question that you even failed to date it.

I want to bring it to your attention that it arrived at the Russian Federation president's administration at 1445 hours on 26 June 1993, and I cannot fail to be surprised at the way in which the mass media, which have unleashed a powerful campaign in this connection, reporting that the deputies' question was signed by 30 deputies, found out about the said question before it appeared in the Russian Federation president's administration.

If you are so greatly concerned over the "dacha question" and tormented by your consciences, therefore, I can recommend that in order to create an objective picture you address a deputies' question to Russian Federation President B.N. Yeltsin as to the basis of legislative enactment on which he was allocated four hectares of land for a private dacha and as to who bore the costs of constructing this palace and special dwelling

on Ulitsa Osenney, Moscow. Incidentally, there have also been items on this subject in PRAVDA and other mass media which talk of expenditures of hundreds of millions of rubles and, what is more, apparently from the state budget.

Furthermore, I hope that you will evince as much sincere interest as was shown in relation to me with regard to the size of the plots of land and the cost of the buildings erected on them for members of the "Democratic" Russian Government and many other exponents of "democracy" and market "reforms," and by the method whereby Defense Minister P.S. Grachev, Marshal Ye.I. Shaposhnikov, K.I. Kobets, D.A. Volkogonov, and other "democratic generals" have privatized state dachas with plots of up to four hectares at knockdown prices.

In conclusion I want to remind you, dear people's deputies, of the preamble to the Russian Federation Law "On the Status of Heroes of the Soviet Union, Heroes of the Russian Federation, and Full Holders of the Order of Glory:" "This law **recognizes the special deeds done for the state and the people** by Heroes of the Soviet Union, Heroes of the Russian Federation, and full holders of the Order of Glory, recognizes the need for the state to take measures guaranteeing their economic and social welfare, establishes their status, and grants appropriate rights and privileges." Your question is therefore in many ways indicative of where certain Russian Federation people's deputies stand on matters of morality.

[Signed] A. Rutskoy

Rutskoy Offers Personal Effort for Arazamas-16

PM0107155793 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 2

[Anatoliy Pokrovskiy report: "Nuclear Bone of Contention"]

[Text] PRAVDA has written more than once about the tense situation at Arzamas-16. The city has received a telegram from Russian Federation Vice President A. Rutskoy, which says: "Understanding the calamitous nature of your situation and the possible consequences of a thoughtless attitude on the part of the government to your center's fate, I am ready to join in the resolution of its problems through the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet... I would ask you to set up a group of specialists (scientists and lawyers) to prepare a draft Russian Federation law on nuclear research and on safeguarding the activity of the scientific and science and production organizations."

Judiciary Meet at Second Congress in Moscow

PM0107133593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[Report from the ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, ITAR-TASS column: "Judges in Conference"]

[Text] The second All-Russia Congress of Judges is taking place in Moscow. It is being attended by over 500 delegates from common courts at all levels, military courts, and courts of arbitration.

Reports on progress in the judicial reform have been delivered by V. Lebedev, chairman of the Supreme Court; V. Yakovlev, chairman of the Supreme Court of Arbitration; and Yu. Kalmykov, Russian deputy justice minister.

Government Leaders' 30 Jun Activities Listed

PM0207080593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 1

[Unattributed feature: "Executive Branch Monitoring"]

[Excerpts] **'Meetings, Talks, Trips'**

[passage omitted] First Vice Premier Vladimir Shumeyko received Thomas Pickering, U.S. ambassador to Russia. They discussed a broad range of questions of Russian-U.S. relations.

First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets tackled questions pertaining to the flotation of the Norilskiy Nikel [Norilsk Nickel] concern. Vice Premier Anatoliy Chubays was also involved in discussing this problem. [passage omitted]

Vice Premier Anatoliy Chubays met with the president of the Proctor and Gamble company.

Vice Premier Sergey Shakhray is paying an official visit to Kaliningrad, where regional problems are being discussed.

Vice Premier Yuriy Yarov received a delegation from Alaska and then met with leaders of the Russian State Committee for Sanitary and Epidemiological Supervision.

Vice Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha is on an official trip to Kazan.

Civic Union Leaders Disagree on Early Elections

PM0207095593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 2

[Feliks Babitskiy report: "What Does and Does Not Civic Union Decide?"]

[Text] Another squabble seems to be developing within Civic Union—this time over the preliminary results of the Constitutional Conference and the impending early parliamentary elections. There is no unity among Civic Union members to date on the question of the desirability of these elections. Thus, Aleksandr Vladislavlev and Vasiliy Lipitskiy—plus Gennadiy Sklyar, who has "sided with them"—are clearly "in favor," voicing the opinion of their party comrades. They consider that the current generation of deputies has already reaped enough reward from their lofty position and that it is

time for them to give up their mandates to those who also fancy coming to Moscow to get their hands on the public purse. Incidentally, the withdrawal of "Travkin's people" from the coalition was due not least to these considerations. They have long been morally ready to start the election campaign and were afraid that their bloc partners were not determined enough to do so.

However, there are plenty of well-known people opposed to new elections. Primaril, Igor Muravyev, Andrey Golovin, and Sergey Polozkov, leaders of the "Smena" faction and movement. They may also have the support of Viktor Mironenko and Anatoliy Dolgolaptev, the two cochairman of "Renewal." The personal interest of the former three in delaying early elections until at least the day of reckoning is obvious—they are parliamentarians. But their line of argument may win over a considerable number of supporters within the bloc who do not have mandates. Their main argument is after all the results of the latest referendum. Relying on them, deputies smile ironically when talking to their comrades: "Do you really hope to win these elections?" And this irony has an extremely sobering effect on the latter.

So, it is still not known what position Civic Union will espouse on the new parliamentary elections. It is only obvious that it is not its leaders that will decide whether or not elections should be held.

Government Building Picketed by 'Working Russia'

LD0207124193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1049 GMT 2 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow July 2 TASS—Staff members of the Russian Government's office were confronted this morning by a picket line numbering some 20 members. They accused some Cabinet members of corruption, including Vice-Premier Vladimir Shumeyko and head of the Federal Information Centre Mikhail Poltoranin.

Activist of the "Working Rossiya" party Valeriy Podguzov who participated in picketing, told ITAR-TASS that the picket was not organised specially. According to Podguzov, people came to the government building at their own initiative.

"The aim of the picket is to show the authorities that people are waking up from slumber, they are active and will not permit themselves to be fooled," he noted.

Picket members complained about devalued deposits at the savings bank and demanded their earliest indexation in line with galloping inflation.

Poll Shows Government's Approval Rating Drops

MK0207093693 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Jul 93 p 1

[Aleksandr Kinsburskiy report under the "NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA- VP Poll" rubric: "Enthusiasm for Politics Distracts Ministers From Economic Management. Assessments of the Chernomyrdin Government Performance for Six Months"]

[Text] Another telephone survey was conducted in June among the eight most influential groups of the Russian establishment in Moscow: Russian Federation people's deputies, heads of 18 ministries and state committees, 25 federal agencies; leaders of 33 political parties; chiefs of state enterprises; leading entrepreneurs; top officials of the Russian Defense Ministry and the General Staffs of the Russian Federation and the CIS; chief editors of 22 newspapers, three magazines, and 25 television and radio channels, and also scientific and cultural celebrities—a total of 400 people.

The results of the June poll and those of similar polls among public opinion standouts conducted in February and April show how the attitude of the Russian elite to the performance of the Russian Government was changing in the first six month of this year. Compared with February, the average mark given to the Council of Ministers in June was 0.09 points lower. And if compared with the April figure, it is easy to notice that the decrease was 0.41 points on a 5-point scale. In other words, the general attitude of the Russian establishment to the Chernomyrdin government is currently even somewhat worse that it was at the beginning of the year.

If the opinions of the ministers themselves are not taken into account, the government's performance got the highest score (however, not higher than 3) from the press chiefs (2.98) and scientific and cultural figures (2.90). The lowest marks (2.28) were given by political party leaders and state enterprise directors. The attitude of the former group to the Council of Ministers, by and large, improved by 0.16 points, while that of the latter, on the contrary, was worse by 0.37 points. This was also the case with two other groups—people's deputies and top brass—who gave the government only 2.44 points and, moreover, clearly lowered their score compared with the beginning of the year.

Exactly 33 percent of those polled said that the current Russian Government has achieved no successes at all; 20 percent did not know or refused to answer this question: "Where did the Chernomyrdin cabinet excel most last month? What action of the government do you consider the most successful (or the most unsuccessful)?" The most commonly cited successes (and failures) included the government's financial policy, its policies regarding pricing, credits, taxation, and so forth. Those who assess this area of the government's activity negatively, however, proved to be twice as numerous as those holding a positive view: 32 percent and 16 percent respectively. On that score, one may presume that the government's

mistakes and failures in the financial area are the key to the comprehension and explanation of its lower approval rating. At the same time, 10 percent of those polled pointed out the government's joining in the political fray as its main failure, because this, in their view, clearly distracted the government from economic management. Other important mistakes mentioned included a lack of a clear-cut plan of action (6 percent), its indecisiveness in the conduct of economic reform (5 percent), the continuing production slump (4 percent), the unsatisfactory progress of privatization, and so forth.

Those disgruntled with the government's financial performance dominate most heavily among state enterprise directors, the military top brass, and political party leaders, primarily of communist orientation. Advocates and opponents of these policies among scientific and cultural figures (and, to a lesser extent, entrepreneurs), on the contrary, split nearly equally.

Average assessments of the Russian Federation government performance (on a 5-point scale)

February	2.76
April	3.08
June	2.67

Attitude of prominent figures to the government's financial policy (as percentage of the respective groups polled)

Groups of those polled	Consider a success (1)	Consider a failure (2)	Difference between (1) and (2)
Scientific and cultural figures	20	22	-2
Entrepreneurs	20	28	-8
People's deputies	14	26	-12
Executive branch	10	24	-14
Press chiefs	24	42	-18
Political party leaders	14	34	-20
Military commanders	22	44	-22
State enterprise directors	6	36	-30
TOTAL	16	32	-16

Media & Constitution Issues

Khabarovsk Radios To 'Fall Silent,' TV 'Blacked Out'

OW0107123393 Khabarovsk Radio Khabarovsk Network in Russian 0845 GMT 30 Jun 93

[From the "Kray News" program]

[Text] In concluding our broadcast, we wish to say once again with regret that it is possible that as of tomorrow, the inhabitants of our kray will be deprived of electronic mass media. The radios will fall silent and the televisions will be blacked out, as we have already notified you. We, the television and radio workers, are ready to carry out our professional duties as before; however, such is the situation. The telephone remains our only means of contact with you—please call. We will give you the weather forecast, but as for the rest, as they say, alas! True, tomorrow we do have one more radio broadcast between 1900 and 2000 GMT, that is for certain, but we still do not have any clear information on what awaits us in the future. Nevertheless, with the hope of meeting you again tomorrow, this is Galina Fomenko and Igor Potichuk, who brought you the kray news, signing off.

Far East Television, Radio To Go Off Air

OW0207093893 Vladivostok Radiostantsiya Tikhiy Okean Maritime Network in Russian 0715 GMT 1 Jul 93

[From the "Pacific Ocean" program]

[Text] A warning about the possible stoppage of television and radio programs from today on was made yesterday morning on Khabarovsk radio. Stanislav Kuznetsov, chief of the state enterprise for radio broadcasting and communication announced that financing of the television and radio company had stopped since May of this year, and that indebtedness to our enterprise has already amounted to 468 million rubles. Both Ostankino and the Russian television and radio company are still indebted to us, as are the television and radio companies for the Khabarovsk and Maritime krays and other regions.

Since the outlook of future financing has not been determined, a decision was adopted to shut off television and radio broadcasting equipment.

It has also been reported that ministries, central committees of the oblast and leaders of krays and oblasts of the Far East addressed the president and government, but to no avail. The radio and television transmitting enterprises of Khabarovsk, Sakhalin, Magadan, Petropavlovsk, and Blagoveshchensk are switching all the leading television and radio companies off due to their inability to pay. Only commercial bodies which have no financial problems will continue broadcasting.

Military Media Chiefs Set Up Cooperation Council

PM0107143193 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Jun 93 p 1

[Lieutenant Colonel Aleksandr Volkov report: "Military Editors' Council Created"]

[Text] A council of the chief editors of military publications was set up recently on the initiative of the military

press section of the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense Main Directorate for Work With Personnel and the All-Russia Association of Military Journalists. Captain First Rank Vladimir Chupakhin, chief editor of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, Major General Nikolay Koshelev, chief editor of ARMIYA magazine, and Colonel Aleksandr Yakubovskiy, chief of the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense Central Television and Radio Broadcasting Studio, were elected as the council's cochairmen.

The council proposes to elaborate a collective opinion on the problems which journalists in shoulder boards are obliged to confront in the process of service and creative work. Mass media editors intend to cooperate with the Union of Russian Journalists and the central press chief editors' club, which operates under this public association.

Arbitration Commission To Examine Disputes

LD0107130493 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] At the Constitutional Conference in Moscow, the arbitration commission is to hold a meeting today to settle the disputable provisions of the draft new Russian constitution, said the head of the State Legal Department of the president's Administration, Aleksandr Kotenkov.

Disputable, for example, are the rights of members of the Russian Federation, the status of the federal and local authorities, and power-sharing between the president and parliament.

If the problems are solved, an expert commission will begin tomorrow wording the final version of the new constitution.

The Constitutional Commission will have another plenary session on 12 July.

'Equal,' 'Uniform' Status Demanded for All Components

PM0107113393 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Jun 93 p 3

[Parliamentary Press Service "Statement by Kray and Oblast Representatives," dated Moscow, 25 June 1993 and "signed by representatives of 40 territories"]

[Text] We, the authorized representatives of Russian Federation krays and oblasts, consider the initialing of the draft Russian Federation constitution possible only if the following fundamental provisions are included in the text:

1. Russia is a constitutional federation.

2. The status of the Federation's components—republics which are part of the Russian Federation, krays, oblasts, and autonomous entities—is equal, with certain exceptions directly prescribed by the Russian Federation Constitution (the right to citizenship, the state language, the constitution, the flag, the emblem, and the anthem).

3. The exclusive and joint competence of the Russian Federation and its components, and the procedure for exercising exclusive and joint competence, are equal in content and uniform in relation to all the Federation's components.

4. The Russian Federation's components do not have the right to secede from Russia.

5. The Russian Federation budget system, which includes a clear separation of powers between federal organs, the Federation's components, and local self-government components in the sphere of taxation and the formulation and exclusion of budgets at all levels is to be included in the Russian Federation Constitution's text as a separate section.

6. Parliament's upper chamber—the Federal Assembly—is elected autonomously by the Russian Federation's components according to uniform norms of representation.

7. Under the Russian Federation Constitution the state authority of the Russian Federation's components is exercised by the organs of legislative, executive, and judicial authority formed by them.

8. The federal organs of authority for questions of joint jurisdiction are to publish the legislative principles according to which the organs of authority of the Federation's components are to carry out their own legal regulation, including the adoption of laws.

9. Before the draft constitution is sent to the Federation's subjects for initialing, a preliminary procedure is to be carried out whereby the authorized representatives of the Supreme Soviet, of the president, and of all the Federation's components jointly agree on the draft.

10. The initialing of the draft constitution by the Russian Federation's components is mandatory.

[Dated] Moscow, 25 June 1993

Faction Makes Constitutional Reform Proposals

LD0107212993 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 1 Jul 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Correspondent Pugacheva] The parliamentary faction Accord for the Sake of Progress today presented its version of constitutional reform. Russia's new law can and should be passed by constitutional means at a Congress of People's Deputies. If the Congress blocks a law concerning constitutional reform, or passed it in a

distorted form, then the people's deputies, having collected the necessary number of signatures, could hold an all-Russian referendum on the draft constitution.

The coordinators of the faction also proposed amendments to the referendum law, whereby a decision in a referendum could be considered to have been taken if not less than two-thirds of the citizens taking part in the poll had voted for it. On the situation in the parliament itself, notably the nomination of Vladimir Isakov to the post of chairman of the committee on constitutional legislation, Deputy Yevgeniy Kozhokin said:

[Begin Kozhokin recording] Regrettably, this leads to the Supreme Soviet being turned into another party: a party [words indistinct] of national salvation. [end recording]

Possible Options for Constitution's Adoption Reviewed

MK0207101093 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No 30, 2 Jul 93 (signed to press 1 Jul) p 1

[Dmitriy Volkov report under the "Plans" rubric: "President Intends To Make Use of Congress Rostrum. Congress Will Try To Exploit Government's Mistakes"]

[Text] The Constitutional Conference's conciliatory commission is meeting today in the Kremlin to try to reconcile the key differences in approaches to the draft constitution. Officials in the presidential administration express hopes that these differences, which primarily regard relations between the federal authorities and the regions, and also the republics' claims to a privileged status and the oblasts' ambitions for autonomy, may be overcome before the Constitutional Conference's plenary meeting scheduled for 12 July. To all appearances, an attempt will be made at the meeting to collect the signatures at least of the majority of the Federation components under the draft.

Aleksandr Kotenkov, chief of the Russian State and Legal Administration, addressed the parliament's thinning reform coalition, saying that since the president's lawyers would not like to bypass the congress at the very first stage of constitutional reform, a group of deputies to request its convention was needed. The government does not want to be the one with whom this initiative originates. From the point of view of the executive branch, convening the congress at the request of either the deputies or the regions would be preferable.

A number of influential members of the Constitutional Conference suggest that an attempt should finally be made to involve the Constitutional Commission's working group in the finalization of the draft. According to Mr. Sheynis, member of the conciliatory commission, this would create at least an appearance of the coordination of actions by the two "branches of power." A reaction of the working group, formed by Oleg Rumyantsev, will depend, however, on whether Mr. Rumyantsev changes his "obstructionist" attitude to the Constitutional Conference.

The next step after the draft is agreed upon as proposed and approved by the Constitutional Conference will be an "appeal" to the congress. The president's team hardly expects a constructive reaction from the latter, but it is at the congress that it plans to collect the requisite number of deputies' signatures under the request that a referendum on a new constitution and a provisional law on authority be held.

In any event, the congress will have plenty of opportunities to prevent the referendum from being called. It may judge that a critical review of the progress of economic reform followed by corresponding reshuffles is its most urgent task for the time being. According to Vladimir Lysenko, leader of the Russian Republican Party, the Yeltsinites may resort to a no-confidence vote against the parliament speaker. In addition, the president's loyalists expect to secure enough votes to thwart the congress in the event of desperate need.

Thus, if the congress gets around to discussing the draft constitution and to considering a referendum on the subject, the likelihood of sabotage from the deputy corps or attempts to launch a counteroffensive on the "economic front" is fairly high. This, according to a number of participants in the Constitutional Conference, may finally give President Yeltsin enough legal grounds to break the law. "This is the only case where the president may go beyond the current Constitution in order to restore the current laws," Yuriy Nesterov, participant in the Constitutional Conference said yesterday.

Under this scenario, the president may issue an edict calling elections for the "short parliament" with a two-year tenure, designed to supplant the unpleasant sounding Constituent Assembly. Yeltsin's loyalists from among parliamentarians, of course, say they would like to avoid this option. But should Boris Yeltsin actually shirk decisive steps, this may be exploited by his most intransigent opponents.

Military Issues

Exercise Held To Evaluate Weapons Systems

LD3006143993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1850 GMT 29 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS military observer Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, 29 Jun—How should the armaments of the Russian land forces, the airborne troops, the army aviation and the mobile forces look in the next decade? Finding ways to tackle this question was helped by a trial-research exercise held today in the Kubinka military garrison near Moscow under the overall direction of First Deputy Minister of Defene of the Russian Federation Andrey Kokoshin.

In the course of the exercise there were demonstrations of both existing models of military equipment and those with which the Russian Army is now being equipped.

These are "Tochka-U" rocket systems, "Smerch" and "Uragan" complexes, a wide range of self- propelled howitzers, troops' antiaircraft systems, radar stations, multi-channel missile targeting stations, launchers, Ka-50 and Mi-28 combat helicopters, the BMD-3 airborne fighting vehicle (all paratroopers' kit will be "installed" on it), the T-90 tank, communications, reconnaissance and command-and-control vehicles, recovery and repair equipment, "multi-track" caterpillar transporters, and "Hammer" type combat vehicles capable of carrying the most varied anti-tank weapons.

In an exclusive interview with the ITAR-TASS observer, Head of the Main Armored Troops Department of the Defense Ministry of the Russian Federation Colonel General Aleksandr Galkin said that the aim of the exercises was to assess the level of the main combat and technical characteristics of types of weapons and equipment, work out proposals for their further development and use, and specify a long-term program for arming the Russian Army and Navy up to the year 2005.

Further on Kubinka Exercise

PM3006140993 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jun 93 p 1

[Aleksandr Yegorov report: "Exercise Held at Kubinka"]

[Text] A scientific research exercise was conducted 29 June on the Kubinka range near Moscow under the general leadership of First Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin. It was the result of work carried out this year on the ranges at Gorokhovets near St. Petersburg and at Kapustin Yar. The air defense systems of the Ground Forces were being "road-tested" there. New models were demonstrated at Kubinka by the Main Armored Directorate, the Main Rocket and Artillery Directorate, and the Main Transportation Directorate of the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense.

Colonel General Aleksandr Galkin, chief of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry Main Armored Directorate and the immediate organizer of the scientific research exercise, said that the exercises pursued the aim of assessing the level of the main combat and technical characteristics of models of armament and military hardware, working out proposals for their further balanced development and utilization, and concretizing a long-term program for arming the Russian Army and Navy. In addition, a number of questions connected with the standardization of arms bases and the development of a new generation of base chassis to replace those produced in nearby foreign countries were tackled on the exercise.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA will provide more details about the scientific research exercise at Kubinka in a later issue.

Exercise Campaign for Funding

PM0207083393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jul 93 First Edition p 1

[Viktor Litovkin report: "Government Tests Army. Army Puts Questions to Government"]

[Text] The Russian Army conducted a scientific research exercise at the Kubinka range near Moscow 29 June. It was directed by First Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin. First Vice Premier Oleg Soskovets, Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin, and Aleksandr Piskunov, deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Committee for Defense and Security Questions, were present at the exercises and the exhibition of ground troops' weapons and combat hardware.

The purpose of the exercises, which concluded a whole number of similar research measures conducted at Gorokhovets, on the Emba, near St. Petersburg, at Kapustin Yar and Alabino—IZVESTIYA has written about many of them—was to comprehensively evaluate the main combat and technical characteristics of models of arms and weapons complexes and systems, to draw up proposals for their further development and use, and to shape a program for arming the Russian Army and its mobile forces through the year 2005.

At Kubinka the members of the government were shown more than 150 of the latest models of combat hardware and weapons, including the tank of the 21st century—the T-90—the BMD-3 airborne fighting vehicle, the Ka-50 and Mi-28 helicopters, the "Smerch" and "Uragan" salvo fire systems, communications, reconnaissance, and command vehicles, electronic warfare systems, evacuation and repair hardware, "multilink" vehicle carriers, army air defense weapons, and much, much besides. The absolute majority of the models on show surpass foreign counterparts in terms of their specifications and performance characteristics or do not have foreign counterparts.

Helicopters, tanks, infantry fighting vehicles, artillery pieces, and antitank guided missiles fired at targets and hit them with the first shots, despite opposition from electronic warfare facilities, while electronic warfare systems blew up shells and mortar shells in the air without letting them reach their targets.

A high-ranking military man told me: We specially set out all this wealth before members of the government in order to show that we possess it today but tomorrow we could lose it forever, since we do not have the money to buy such splendid weapons, and industry will not wait for us to get it, contrary to promises which are not being fulfilled.

Also, he remarked, we wanted to show the government that we can make all this in Russian plants, without depending on the broken coproduction links with the former union republics. True, Andrey Kokoshin did say in conversation with IZVESTIYA's correspondent that

the military does not set itself the aim of renouncing such links with the CIS defense industry, although we must be able to do a lot of things ourselves.

Summing up the results of the exercises, Oleg Soskovets told IZVESTIYA's correspondent: What I have seen on the range at Kubinka confirms my belief that the government must treat the Army and its needs far more seriously than has hitherto been the case.

Qualities of New Air Defense Systems Hailed

PM3006111193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jun 93 First Edition p 6

[Viktor Litovkin report: "Russia's New Weapon. Solo on Organ of Made of Missile Tubes"]

[Text] Among Russia's air defense systems there are two complexes—the best today, in my view—which even military people frequently confuse. They both start with the index S-300, but one is the S-300 V, while the other is the S-300 PMU, or the PMU-1.

The Americans say that these have a common abbreviation so as to mislead a potential adversary. The first system (its general designer is Veniamin Yefremov of the "Antey" concern) was created, however, to combat ballistic and cruise missiles, and then strategic and tactical aircraft, was designed to provide cover for ground forces—tank and combined-arms columns on the march and during deployment—and so was mounted on caterpillar tracks.

The second (its general designer is Boris Bunkin of the "Almaz" Science-and-Production Association) was set the task of covering cities and industrial targets against raids by various types of aircraft and then also missiles, guarding fixed-site command and control facilities and staffs, and performing alert duty. It was proposed to use it on good roads, and it was mounted on wheels.

This—the tracked chassis and the wheeled chassis—is probably the chief external difference between the two systems, which are in many ways similar and very different.

Our story today is about the S-300 V, about which the authoritative U.S. magazine JANE [as published] recently made the following comment: "The S-300 V system is endowed with properties which no Western antiaircraft missile system will possess until the end of the current decade." What, then, are these properties?

Viktor Yepifanov, the system's chief designer, who started work in Yefremov's design bureau in 1957 after graduating from Moscow's Bauman Higher Technical School, named them for me in the following order:

"Homing-guidance missile with directed warhead; very high density of fragmentation stream; protection against jamming and virtually absolute effectiveness of target engagement."

In ordinary language this means that during their flight to the target the system's 9M82 and 9M83 missiles—in the West they are called the "Giant," which weighs 4.6 tonnes, and the "Gladiator," weighing 2.5 tonnes (they were created in Yekaterinburg's "Novator" Experimental Design Bureau under the leadership of Lev Lyulyev and Valentin Smirnov)—"independently" select the target, tune out all kinds of jamming, turn their own 150-kg nose section toward the warhead, and bombard it with a very powerful and dense stream of "heavy" fragments, each of which weighs 15 grams. Not one air defense missile possesses such a characteristic today.

The unique properties of the S-300 V enable it to combat aerodynamic targets with a surface area of two-hundredths of a square meter, including the "invisible" aircraft of the Stealth system, AWACS's, and missiles flying at a supersonic speed of 1,000-3,000 meters per second at ranges of 40-100 km and more and at altitudes ranging from 25 meters to 25 km. It can defend areas of 500 square kilometers against a simultaneous strike by four tactical ballistic missiles.

Incidentally, a station's surveillance radar can detect up to 200 targets at once, its command post simultaneously handles 70 and distributes 24 of them automatically among the four missile guidance stations with due regard for the degree of danger from them, while the launchers [puskovyye] can also, of course, hit the same number simultaneously. If necessary, two missiles can be fired at the target at an interval of five seconds, although one missile would be enough.

It is not quite correct to compare the S-300 V antiaircraft missile system with the Raytheon firm's Patriot, even the third-generation PAC-3, which is to be commissioned toward the end of the century. That is capable of covering just 150 km. Its fragments can hit one target with an area of 0.1 of a square meter. The missiles are not able to "single out" the warhead, and indeed they direct fire strictly in a prescribed sector and not all around. Two or three of them are needed per target. This is a very large number in present-day combat.

I observed combat firing of the S-300 V in a single operational-tactical ABM complex with other army antiaircraft missile systems on the Russian-Kazakh Emba range at the end of last year. Yepifanov's installation was among them, like a soloist in a symphony orchestra, although the organ—let us compare the S-300 V with just such a musical instrument in terms of the richness of its potential—can hardly be called a soloist in an orchestra, for it is itself a multipart orchestra.

The S-300 V missiles, as in the "Tor" system created in the same "Antey" Concern, flew out of tubes, thrust upward by a propellant charge to a height of 50 meters, where they turned toward the target—which could be approaching from any direction—the sustainer engine fired, and the mass of several tonnes sped away to intercept its victim. It is also an interesting fact that the

missile can be "fired" not only by a launcher but also by a transport vehicle—which, of course, sharply increases the system's combat potential.

The combat resources of the S-300 V system include a detection and target designation unit. There is a command post vehicle, a surveillance radar, and a sector scanning radar. An antiaircraft missile system with a multichannel missile guidance station and twin-tube launchers armed with "Gladiators" (9M83) and four-tube launchers armed with "Giants" (9M82). Six launchers in all. And launch primers [puskozaryazhayushchiye ustanovki].

This whole cavalcade can be deployed on the march and commence combat work five minutes after a target has been detected. It requires the same length of time to pack up and move off.

When you know that the Russian Army has such a highly efficient defensive system as the S-300 V and that our industry is capable of making it, life becomes more tranquil.

MiG-31 Shown at Zhukovskiy Air Show

PM0107152793 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0735 GMT 26 Jun 93

[By Aleksandr Galkin; from the "Aerospace Salon" program]

[Text] [Galkin] Russian citizens with no connections with the aircraft industry were able to see one of our most secret aircraft—the MiG-31—only a year ago. Accompanied by two MiG-29's it flew above Europe's biggest airfield, which belongs to the Flight Test Institute at Zhukovskiy.

As usual, foreigners were in a more privileged position. They were shown the heavy interceptor at the Le Bourget Airshow near Paris in the summer of 1991.

The MiG-31 was designed for high-altitude interception of strategic reconnaissance aircraft like the U.S. SR-71 and the B-1 bomber, and also to counter ground-launched and air-launched cruise missiles.

The aircraft is fitted with a unique-parameter "Zaslon" phased-array radar, which is linked to a weapons control system permitting the use of guided missiles in the lower hemisphere, i.e. against the backdrop of ground clutter, which is a highly complex task.

The MiG-31 is capable of speeds of 3,000 km/h at high altitude, and up to 1,500 km/h at low altitude, with a search range equal to hundreds of square kilometers.

The MiG-31 is an interceptor capable of carrying various versions of defensive missiles. In addition to the missiles, it is equipped with a six-barrel 23 mm gun.

Maximum flight time is 3.5 hours. The aircraft has an in-flight refueling system which enables it to stay in the air up to twice that time.

The MiG-31 can carry out alert duty either on its own or in a group of up to four aircraft linked by automated information exchange. A group consisting of four MiG-31's, flying at a distance of some 200 km from each other, ensures the protection of a 900-km wide span of air space. Such a group can track 10 targets simultaneously, and fire missiles at four of them.

The MiG-31 is currently used for alert duty in Russia's air defense units. It is believed that, for the time being, there is nothing to match it anywhere else in the world.

Assault Division Redeployed From Odessa to Ivanovo Oblast

LD0107125993 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] In accordance with a government instruction, the 98th Air Assault Division has been redeployed in Ivanovo oblast. It used to be located near Odessa. In connection with this, Adolf Laptev, head of the oblast administration, has signed a decision defining the tasks to create the necessary living conditions for the assault troops. For the time being, servicemen's families have been accommodated in hostels belonging to a number of enterprises, technical colleges, and at the Birch Grove international youth holiday center. Places in nearby schools and pre-school establishments have been reserved for servicemen's children. At the same time, the paratroop command has allocated funds for the designing and construction of almost 1,000 apartments, as well as schools and a baby-food factory, within the next two years according to ITAR-TASS.

Defense Enterprises 'Cannot Manage' Without Support

PM0107112593 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jun 93 p 3

[Valentin Rudenko report: "Please Let Us Work Normally. This Is How Defense Enterprise Leaders Raise the Issue with the Government and the Supreme Soviet"]

[Text] The conference on the issue of conversion and the maintenance of highly efficient technologies was no exception in this sense either. Oleg Soskovets, first deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers—the Government, chaired the conference of representatives of the defense sectors of industry.

Delivering the report, Viktor Glukhikh, chairman of the Russian Federation Committee for the Defense Sectors of Industry, pointed out that the mechanism for supporting enterprises undergoing conversion is working poorly at present.

It is time to determine whether Russia needs the defense industry, general directors of defense enterprises said. If

it does, then the government and the Supreme Soviet are obliged to create working conditions that are at least to some degree normal.

Everything must be done the way that is customary in a civilized society, Aleksey Shulunov, president of the League To Promote Defense Enterprises and general director of the P.S. Pleshakov Science-and-Production Association, said. Conversion problems must be resolved through federal programs. An arms program must be drawn up and funded appropriately. It is necessary to carry out the privatization policy in a considered manner and not approach defense enterprises with the same yardstick as, let us say, footwear factories, hairdressers, stores, etc. The most important thing is to get down at last to the serious restructuring of defense sectors of industry and to realize the idea of setting up financial-industrial groups which could both finance and develop themselves.

First Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin spoke to the conference about the work which the Defense Ministry is doing to shape defense orders for 1994 and to draw up an arms program through the year 2000 and beyond. The Defense Ministry has managed to ensure that defense orders come under a protected subhead in the budget, but funding remains a very sore point. The debt to defense enterprises stands at approximately 300 billion rubles just in respect of current payments. It is, in general, a question of the defense enterprises' confidence in the government and the state. Unless urgent, imaginative measures are taken, rejection of defense orders could assume a mass nature.

In Andrey Kokoshin's opinion, such measures must include a government and Supreme Soviet decision not just on a more precisely defined budget but on its semiautomatic indexing in accordance with the prevailing prices index. Second, it is necessary to draw up a special statute on the funding of protected budget subheads and conversion programs. Special agreements on this must be concluded between the government and the Central Bank and also, maybe, between the Central Bank and the Ministry of Finance. A decision must be adopted right now to increase from four to eight the minimum wage incorporated in the price of defense enterprises' output. Naturally, with a corresponding increase in the defense budget.

Summing up the results of the conference, Oleg Soskovets said that the switch to market relations has become a perfectly real and conscious fact. Under these conditions defense enterprises cannot manage without state support. It is only then that it is possible to count on success in resolving conversion tasks and on the maintenance of the highly efficient technologies that defense enterprises possess.

Officers View Military Defense Doctrine

PM0107115293 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 2

[Article by Valeriy Biletov, candidate of military sciences and lieutenant colonel of reserves, and Ivan Khoklov, colonel of reserves: "It All Boils Down to One Thing. Military Doctrine for Defense of... the President"]

[Text] Kiev—Among all peoples and at all times, the strategy for the protection of a young state has emerged and been consolidated from the very first days of the proclamation of the state. Illustrations are plentiful. However, after the December days of the affirmation of Russia's independence it took 18 months for a draft (!) Russian Federation military doctrine finally to appear. We quote the proposed fundamental principles:

"The military doctrine of the Russian Federation is a system of views, officially adopted by the state, on military conflicts and their prevention, on the use of military force to protect sovereignty, territorial integrity, and other vitally important interests of the individual, society, and the state, and on military building."

The first point here that is perplexing even to a nonmilitary man is the absence of those concepts that are generally recognized in the world, like war, enemy, external aggression, and so forth. Yet these are key terms in formulating and interpreting a doctrine, because without a hypothetical war you do not need an army at all. Keeping quiet about the enemy—albeit a potential enemy—creates an impasse: What kind of army should be built, in terms of strength, arms, structure? Apparently the military-political leadership is confident that Russia will not have to wage war on anyone and that it is surrounded by only friends. Yet the United States has already formulated at least five options for invading Russia should the need arise. And no great secret is made of this.

At the same time, even before discussing the doctrine, our country has begun cutting and destroying priority operational-strategic systems with reckless haste. Meanwhile the submarines of a power across the ocean ply our northern seas calmly and with impunity.

Now let us try to unravel the wording that masks the doctrine's true objectives. First of all, the concept of "military conflicts and their prevention." The question naturally arises: What conflicts are meant—internal, or external? After all, the Russian Army is already involved in both kinds. The blood of innocent inhabitants of many regions has been shed. But neither the lamentable experience of Afghanistan, nor the events in Abkhazia and North and South Ossetia and on the Armenian-Azerbaijani front, nor the bloody carnage in Yugoslavia has any effect on Russia's military policy and foreign policy course. Admittedly such actions are still essentially unconstitutional. But with the establishment of these doctrinal formulas, strong-arm actions by the army against its own or any other people become legislative

[zakonodatelnymi] actions, admittedly not so much constitutional as prostitutional. The conclusion is obvious: Eliminate all mention of military conflicts.

And another thing. It is not clear what is meant by the use of military force to protect sovereignty and state integrity. If, say, Siberia and the Far East, driven by the terrible Lord Hunger, make a bid for survival autonomously, does this mean they could be mercilessly torn apart by hungry Moscow?

But what is particularly striking is the possibility of the use of military force to protect the individual. One wonders: Which individual specifically, and against whom? Today thousands of people, even officers, are being quietly butchered and shot to pieces, yet the Defense Ministry has yet to concern itself with protecting them. So what is implied is the individual person of the president, and maybe also the Council of Ministers chairman and the defense minister himself, so as to protect them, just in case, against the people's wrath.

But enough of analyzing the ingenuousness of the military doctrine. Unfortunately, this draft could imperceptibly cross all the barriers of discussion and approval and end up as the "backing" for an antipopular policy on the use of the Fatherland's Armed Forces.

It would, after all, be nice to know who the authors and experts are who drew up such a major "scientific work," which is transparently directed toward the creation of a special situation [osobogo polozheniya] in the country. Could it have been military colleagues from across the ocean, or "Arbatov's" men... Unlikely as it seems, the "theorists" are maintaining a bashful silence. We would like it brought to their attention that just one brief premise should be written into the military doctrine: "The sole and main task of the Russian Federation Armed Forces is reliable protection against outside aggression." That tenet is already present in the existing Constitution. Only it is so shamelessly violated by our politicians that it is high time they were brought to trial.

Economic Issues

Austerity Base of Revised Budget Forecast Questioned

PM0107121193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 30 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[Yuriy Rytov report: "The Finance Ministry Is Optimistically Inclined, But Won't This Optimism Provoke a New Spiral of 'Shock Therapy'?"]

[Text] In today's issue of our newspaper (see p 4) we publish the official statement of the Russian Federation Ministry of Finances containing a forecast of the country's financial position in the third quarter. So optimistic is this document that you get the impression that it was written to the sound of blaring trumpets. I will cite just two of the indicators forecast: The index of inflation will dip below 15 percent per month, and it is planned to maintain the budget deficit at the level of 10 percent of GNP.

Of course, these figures were not plucked from thin air. As ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI has already reported, at the end of May Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and Viktor Gerashchenko, chairman of the Central Bank of Russia, signed a joint statement on economic policy defining the prospects for financial stabilization in Russia. The document was sent to the IMF in order to obtain long-promised credits worth a total of $3 billion.

Now, roughly the same "reassuring" figures appeared in that document. In particular, the budget deficit by the end of the current year was expected to fall to 5 percent of GNP.

Words are not birds: Once they have flown, you cannot catch them again. In order to arrive at the parameters indicated in the document there was only one road—and a very simple one: to sharply reduce budget expenditure. And the government made the corresponding decision. Ministries and departments were directed, in particular, to decrease the budget appropriations allocated to them earlier and included in the initial budget by not less than 20 percent. Credit emission was also limited by strict parameters, defined every quarter.

And since the second quarter credit limit had already been exhausted in April, in May the Finance Ministry did not receive a single kopek from the Central Bank of Russia. Many of our fellow citizens at once felt the results of the tight financial policy on their empty purses. A whole series of budget organizations and enterprises did not receive the funds to issue pay (incidentally, our editorial offices were among their number).

Meanwhile unfortunate finance workers in the ministries and departments are racking their brains over how to fulfill this extremely strict instruction and reduce their own expenditure, if only by 20 percent. The same expenditure for which they had only quite recently fought so desperately, defending every kopek. I think that Ella Pamfilova (Ministry for the Social Protection of the Population) and Yevgeniy Sidorov (Ministry of Culture) found themselves in the most pitiful situation here.

The position was made more difficult also by the fact that the treasury has failed to receive a significant proportion of the income which it had expected. The distribution of budget revenues between the federal and local budgets now constitutes 40 to 60 percent instead of the planned equality of distribution. And some republics (Tatarstan, Bashkortostan) have ceased to make payments altogether.

Returning to the Finance Ministry's official document, which we publish today, only one thing can be said: It looks plain sailing on paper. Two days ago the refined budget for 1993 was presented to parliament. It envisages a deficit figure bordering on the astronomical—R15 trillion. Let me recall that GNP in the first quarter

constituted exactly the same sum—R15 trillion. So how can there be any talk of the deficit being 10 percent of GNP?

And even with this deficit it is proposed to reduce expenditure on social needs by 15 percent. Parliamentarians are themselves offered a nice dose of medicine: It is planned to significantly cut the Supreme Soviet's budget.

No question about it: We are obliged to aim for financial stability—without it the general recovery of the economy is unthinkable. But with what funds is this to be achieved? "We won't balk at the price" is not a very appropriate principle in the given situation. It should not be forgotten that social tension in society has reached its apogee. And people will hardly accept yet another spiral of "shock therapy."

Forecast on Exchange Rate, Inflation Reported

PM0207113193 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 1

[Yevgeniy Anisimov and Stepan Tyulkov report: "Sad Guesswork in a Green Thicket. Thirteen Reasons Why the Ruble Exchange Rate Is Being Dragged Down"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In the opinion of experts from the Economic and Political Research Center (EPI-Center), the main factor determining the coming surge in inflation will be monetary emission and the availability of credit relating to food purchases in the fall. There will be a wholesale flight from the ruble by producers of grain and other agricultural produce in August-October, and this will further unbalance a market which is already in a serious position owing to the continuing production slump (50 percent of the 1989 level). In August-September the inflation rate will hit 40 percent a month.

The Russian Finance Ministry has issued a forecast for the financial situation in the third quarter. Finance Ministry experts believe that Central Bank of Russia lending rates will reach 150-160 percent and approach market levels. This will restrain inflationary processes slightly. The flight from the ruble will be less panicky, and major amounts of hard currency will come onto the market. Lending will remain at the level of the second quarter—that is, it will lag behind inflation. All this put together will make it possible to cut the monthly inflation rate to 15 percent.

Representatives of commercial banks, assessing the aforementioned factors, rated as most important the availability of credit and monetary emission, which, in their opinion, will be comparatively small throughout the summer, increasing in September during the period of mass food purchases.

In our own view, the flight from the ruble will slow in conjunction with the reduction in lending. The prime role will be played by nonmarket factors such as speculation by the banks, measures of administrative control over small-time currency speculators and exporters, and a general rise in prices.

Thus, the ruble will continue its fall which was interrupted in mid-June. We estimate that a dollar will buy 1,450-1,500 rubles by the end of the summer.

Premier Addresses Small Business Forum

PM0107125793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 30 Jun 93 First Edition p 3

['Abridged version' of Viktor Chernomyrdin speech at Second International Congress on "Small and Medium Enterprise in Russia": "Small Enterprises—This Is the Sphere for Applying Initiative, Talent, and Skill"—from the "Delo" Economic Supplement]

[Text] Along with the tense political struggle, and the sharp and, at times, extreme clashes of opinion in the press and in public discussions, tremendous creative work is under way in the country. The age-old traditions of Russian enterprise are being revived, craft skills are staging a comeback, a market infrastructure is being created, and trade is developing on new principles. These processes are progressing haltingly, painfully. But nevertheless, the new is blazing a trail for itself, and this is the most important thing.

At present, the country's economy is going through a very complex period. And things are not easy for fledgling entrepreneurial activity in Russia.

The government understands very well that it is impossible to resolve a single key problem of economic reform without mass industrial production, and without the formation of a full-blooded enterprise sector.

In recent months the questions of developing and supporting small business have become one of the central areas both in the government's long-term policy and in its day-to-day work. The government has earmarked priority areas of support for small business geared primarily to the production sphere, agriculture, and consumer goods. It is here that aid will be forthcoming first and foremost.

Small and medium business resolves a task of enormous economic and social importance. It is here that we see the main sources of job creation. And this is very, very important for us in view of the increased threat of mass unemployment.

And finally, the extensive creation of small enterprises resolves yet another problem pivotal to the creation of a market economy—breaking with the old psychology, destroying monopolism, and creating a truly competitive, healthy economic environment.

We are convinced that the tens of thousands of small and medium enterprises represent above all tens of thousands of specific locations for applying the vitality,

talent, initiative, and skill of a huge number of Russians. It is thanks to small and medium enterprise that the reforms are in actual fact—for real, as they say—becoming the people's affair. Therefore, work in this field also represents a not inconsiderable civic responsibility for the fate of Russia and the choice made by it.

I will permit myself to dwell on just three of the problems facing small enterprise.

First—state support. We have already taken specific steps which I hope will bear fruit within the next few months even. I have in mind the government decree "On Paramount Tasks for the Development of and State Support for Small Enterprise in the Russian Federation." I believe we are creating a reliable springboard for moving forward. We will strengthen state support for enterprise, and we will resolve legal, organizational, financial, and other questions consistently. The government sees in this not only its duty to entrepreneurs but also the primary economic expediency.

In Russian enterprise the government sees its allies and its support in the economic reorganization of society. By supporting them we are openly saying that we need their support to an even greater degree. We need to work together on those programs in which entrepreneurial and state interests merge as one.

A serious flaw in state support for business is the fallibility of the legislative base. We are only too aware of this. I hope that, in close cooperation with the Supreme Soviet, we will soon be able to perfect and supplement legislation on enterprise. The main thrust of this activity is the creation of legal guarantees for Russian and foreign entrepreneurs to function normally, and for them to be protected from chance, arbitrary bureaucracy, and criminal influences.

The second problem is the mechanism for interrelations between the state and entrepreneurs. All is not well here. Not only are things difficult for the organs of state management, but often it is simply impossible to collaborate with many entrepreneurial associations and organizations laying claim, at times, to an exclusive, monopoly right to represent the interests of industry, trade, and so on. Small business suffers from this most of all.

Therefore, for the purposes of protecting its interests, it would seem, on the basis of the experience of many countries with a developed market economy, that the time has come to create an all-Russian center for private enterprise and a system of chambers of private entrepreneurs and other organizations representing the interests of small business. This center could be formed on the basis of the All-Russian Exhibition Center (formerly VDNKh) as a state joint-stock company with the participation of all regions of Russia. This idea was born in the regions, it was supported by the president's 22 February 1993 edict, and we are ready to assist in every possible way with its implementation.

According to our idea, such chambers or associations of entrepreneurs must defend, in deed and not just in word, the interests of city, oblast, kray, and republic entrepreneurs, and collaborate closely with their administrations as natural and full-fledged partners. Without such structures, any aid to the entrepreneur risks being swallowed up by countless middlemen.

The third problem concerns international support for enterprise. I note with satisfaction that the leaders of national and international financial-economic organizations and entrepreneurs from all continents took part in the work of the International Congress on "Small and Medium Enterprise in Russia." This is indicative of the serious international interest in the development of Russian enterprise.

It is particularly gratifying that the congress organizers are actively seeking channels for direct dialogue and direct business links between the entrepreneurs of the former republics and foreign countries, and between the regions of various countries. Such major events as "Manager's Days" in Tver, the Trade Caravan along the Volga as far as Astrakhan, and subsequently to Iran and India, as well as the Russian Enterprise Days in Germany boost this process.

For our part, we are telling foreign entrepreneurs openly: Although the situation in Russia is complex today, we will do everything to ensure that you can work calmly and confidently with your partners.

Much is being written and said right now about targeted credits and small business development initiatives on the part of international foundations, banks, and so on. Unfortunately, there have been many examples of late where foreign technical aid has not been put to the best use. It seems to me that the right thing would be to make it as public as possible under the aegis of a council comprising independent foreign and Russian experts, and with the participation of regional representatives—on the basis of open competition or tender for projects, and their publication in the press. In the long run this approach is in the interests of those who are ready for honest competition, not behind-the-scenes intrigue.

And one more thing. The Russian Federation Government investigated the possibility of allocating 25 billion rubles for the direct support of small and medium enterprise. I admit that despite the strain on the state budget, I signed the decree with particular satisfaction. Ultimately we will find an opportunity to increase this aid.

(From a speech to the Second International Congress "Small and Medium Enterprise in Russia." Published with some abbreviations.)

Weekly Consumer Prices Featured

PM0207093793 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jun 93 p 2

[Tamara Smirnova report: "Crazy Prices"]

[Text] You will not, I dare say, find a person nowadays who is not interested in prices. So PRAVDA is today starting up a new "Prices" rubric. Each Wednesday we intend to inform our readers in a short review of what things cost in different places. The price changes will be traced using figures from the Russian State Committee for Statistics. Tamara Smirnova is in charge of this rubric.

The weekly price rise in June for 70 basic foodstuffs was 4-6 percent in retail trade and 6-8 percent at city markets. Meat, fish, fruit, and vegetables became significantly more expensive.

The averages prices for Russia on 15 June were:

	retail trade	city market
	(Prices in rubles per kilogram or liter)	
Beef	883	1,505
Pork	995	1,754
Animal fat	1,313	1,419
Vegetable oil	414	577
Milk	76	125
Wheat bread, 1,2 grade	52	—
Potatoes	51	113
Cabbage	226	408
Apples	61	926

In the space of a week semicured sausage increased in price by more than one third in Kostroma, Sterlitamak, Chelyabinsk, and Norilsk, as did poultry in Ryazan, Taganrog, and Kemerovo and apples in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Tyumen.

Price rises in Russia's city markets during June were higher than in retail trade. This is explained by the arrival on the counters of fruit and vegetables from the new harvest. The price of potatoes increased by 15-30 percent each week.

But the inhabitants of many of Russia's regions cannot obtain enough essential foods even at high prices. The population of the North Caucasus, East Siberian, and Far East regions are experiencing the greatest difficulties in buying foodstuffs. Of 11 basic products, there were only three or four on sale there, in Rostov-na-Donu there was only milk, in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk only boiled sausage, and in Groznyy, Khabarovsk, Blagoveshchensk not one of these most vital products was available.

The picture is no rosier in terms of consumer goods. In 51 percent of the cities investigated there was no washing powder in stores, in 43 percent of them there was no toilet soap, and in 30 percent no toothpaste. Retail prices for toothpaste fluctuated from 102 rubles [R] for a tube (Lipetsk) to R300 (Nalchik); and for toilet soap from R24 for a bar (Syktyvkar) to R358 (Murmansk).

The demand for summer clothing and footwear rose sharply in June, but in almost all places there were no boys' shirts or sandals, girls' shoes, women's light coats or skirts, or men's pants or summer shoes on sale. Residents of Vladimir, Smolensk, Samara, Yekaterinburg, Abakan, Vladivostok, and Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy scour the stores just before goods are to be released without any luck. The position with summer goods is slightly better in St. Petersburg, Vologda, Ivanovo, Cheboksary, Lipetsk, Tyumen, and Khabarovsk. In these cities the average prices are as follows: men's pants—R5,303; men's shirts—R2,440; men's shoes—R15,900; women's cotton coats—R2,334; women's summer shoes R13,000; girls' shoes—R2,450; children's cotton hose—R358.

Agricultural Producers Call for State Support

MK0107134693 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 3

[Nikolay Chernykh report: "Kolkhoz Representatives Demand Subsidies"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The just completed second congress of the Russian Agrarian Union has reelected Vasiliy Starodubtsev, head of the agro-industrial association Novo- Moskovskoye, its chairman. In agreeing to his nomination, Starodubtsev explained his participation in the State Committee for the State of Emergency by "the need to implement the decisions of the second congress of the USSR Peasants Union on preventing the disintegration of the agrarian sector." The results of the congress, however, have shown that in spite of the statement by the Union leadership on creating equal conditions for producers regardless of their ownership status, representatives of the kolkhoz-sovkhoz sector were the most concerned by the possibility of a "decollectivization" campaign.

The main demands on the government include the maintenance of price parity for agricultural and industrial produce. According to Agrarian Union Chairman Anatoliy Vorontsov, the cost of equipment and services in the past year has increased 16-fold on average, while prices for agricultural produce have grown by a mere nine times. The congress deemed as too low the government's projected procurement prices for the 1993 harvest, in particular 45,000 to 50,000 rubles per tonne of grain. [passage omitted]

The agriculture producers' striving for joint actions, regardless of ownership status, manifested itself in particular in the fact that the congress was attended by delegates of the private farmers movement as represented by the Association of Peasants (Private Farmers) and Agricultural Cooperatives (AKKOR). According to AKKOR President Vladimir Bashmachnikov, however, "it has proved impossible to ensure an objective reflection of the progress of reform in the agro-industrial sector." Furthermore, the private farmers' proposal on reorganizing the Agrarian Union, created in its time by

kolkhoz and sovkhoz directors, as a confederation of associations, unions and amalgamations of agricultural producers was rejected. As a result, AKKOR can hardly be expected to join the union as a collective member any time soon. At the same time the fact that AKKOR has reserved three seats on the Agrarian Union's Council suggests that the union leadership is interested in preserving the unity of agricultural producers. Up to now this unity has been the main factor of the union's effective lobbying activity which has given cause for talk about the Agrarian Union as a "phenomenon" of Russia's contemporary political life.

[Article is accompanied by following boxed passage]

Main provisions that the Russian Agrarian Union demands should be included in the country's constitution

All forms of property in Russia—state, collective, and private—shall be recognized and protected by the state;

Land shall be transferred to the ownership of those who cultivate it, and within average land allocation quotas it shall be transferred free of charge;

Speculation in land shall be forbidden. The term for using agricultural lands shall be 10 years;

Forcible change of status and organizational-legal forms of agricultural enterprises shall be forbidden;

State, collective and individual agricultural enterprises shall pay a single land tax;

The state shall guarantee priority in the development of the countryside by economic, legal, and social policy; it shall ensure price parity between agriculture and industry. Expenses for cultural and social development of rural areas shall not be subject to taxation.

Low State Order Blamed for Defense Sector Decline

PM0107131193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jun 93 First Edition p 4

[INTERFAX/INTERCEPT report under general headline: "Arms"]

[Text] The Russian defense industry does not have a single arms export contract in 1993 even though it is ready to sell various types of weapons worth $20 billion, according to Gennadiy Yanpolskiy, deputy chairman of the Committee for the Defense Sectors of Industry.

In his words, the state order for the export of arms today is equivalent to $480 million, which is tantamount to the "state's refusal in practice to provide credits for the export of weapons." As a result enterprises in the military-industrial complex have lost 600,000 specialists and in the first quarter of this year alone their numbers have fallen by 14 percent. To rectify the situation it is necessary to switch to the direct export of military output and services by enterprises and producers of this hardware under effective state control, Yanpolskiy stressed.

Worker Discontent Rife in Various Sectors

PM0207103393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Jul 93 First Edition pp 1, 2

[Special Correspondent Aleksandr Golyayev report: "The Final Trump Card—a Strike"]

[Text] At the end of May representatives of the timber industry's regional trade union organizations declared a prestrike situation across the whole of Russia's territory. There was no sensation in the press on this score.

Mid-June, geologists grew exasperated with life. Like the timber workers, they demanded greater attention from the government. Again, quiet. It was only the pickets on Staraya Ploshchad by miners from Rostov and the Kuzbass which forced television commentators to relay to the whole of Russia just how many people in this country are dissatisfied about government policy and their lives. The facemen [zaboyshchiki] of pan-Russian discontent—the miners—were shown on the "small screen," they were invited in through entrance number two at Staraya Ploshchad [Russian Council of Ministers building], where previously it had only been possible to gain access after a three-stage verification by the competent organs.

The miners' tension was defused, but a highly complex socioeconomic situation in thousands of labor collectives remained. Apart from timber workers and geologists, communications workers, teachers, physicians, and cultural workers have also switched to a prestrike system.

What has caused people's discontent? In a word, life. There is no opportunity to eat properly. Or rather, there is the opportunity, but it is expensive. Remember the old vaudeville refrain: "All our wages go down the pan." But you have to clothe yourself, buy shoes, and you may feel like a trip to the theater, or to Sochi. No chance! A vacation in Adler costs several hundred thousand rubles, while a leisure home in Moscow Region costs between 50,000 and 70,000 "worthless" rubles.

So why is everything so topsy-turvy? Have people started to work less conscientiously? You cannot say that about the timber workers. They "plow their furrow" in Taiga villages just as they always did, while paying through the nose for vodka, potatoes, and sausage, if such commodities can be found in the stores. As for wages... For every ruble's worth of produce sold in Vologda Oblast, the labor collective gets 7.5 kopeks (!). It is no joke. Where is the rest? It goes on taxes.

If this is the point of the post-Soviet market—to deduct earnings—then to hell with it, the foresters reason. But they're wrong. The government is conducting a conciliatory policy today. It promises—through V. Shumeyko, for instance—to earmark funds for children's vacations

in the summer period, and it gives $4 billion in alms. And this is how it is in every sphere.

How many hours did the trilateral commission "kill" in a bid to regulate social and labor relations, to settle a general agreement between the government, the trade unions, and employers. These agreements were adopted in spring. And...they are not being carried out. And this includes in the sphere of price regulation and labor remuneration. But what can be more important for the working man? It was the breakdown of wage agreements which brought the miners to the former CPSU Central Committee building.

And here is another example. Communications workers serving radio and television have not been paid for over two months, and there are no funds to meet operating expenses. An appeal to the president and the prime minister failed to produce results. Ostankino, too, is silent. Their demands had to be repeated, but this time in the form of an ultimatum.

Nor is the government pampering the geologists. Without asking the enterprises, and without consulting with anybody on site, the Russian Federation Committee for Geology and the Use of Natural Resources is cutting volumes of work, leaving people standing outside the gates. Here is an example: "Owing to the severe Federal budget deficit, reduce the number of workers in line with allocations specified. Take measures to create jobs which are not linked with geological activity. Review individual projects [poobyektnyye plany], and exclude prospecting projects without question."

What are people supposed to do, how are they supposed to exist when all their lives they have worked in one place, and know the job like the back of their hand? The government is not interested in this. To be more precise, it gives the impression that it is not interested. But in actual fact, the reason is that there is no money. The hole in the budget, by official figures alone, has already grown from 7 to 15 trillion rubles. The government has ended up all at sea in social policy, and it is merely trying through every possible means to rid itself of the responsibility for social guarantees.

V. Budko, chairman of the Central Committee of the Trade Union of Russian Miners, said during a picket on Staraya Ploshchad: "The lack of a well thought-out strategy for getting out of the crisis in the coal sector makes us wary... The government's disregard for its commitments does not do it credit, undermines confidence in it, and forces one to ponder the possibility of cooperating with it." I am sure that textile workers, teachers, doctors, and defense workers would put their signatures to these words...

Who will issue the next statement or package of demands by the Kremlin walls? It is most likely to be workers in the agro-industrial complex, where not only the harvest, but a social explosion is ripening. People are ready to play their final trump card—a strike.

Red Mercury 'Does Not Exist'; Money Laundering Scam

PM0207084193 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jul 93 pp 1,2

[Interview with Major General Aleksandr Gurov, director of the Security Ministry Scientific Research Institute of Security, by Aleksandr Chernyak: "Is There a War on in Russia? Who Is Winning It: The Armed Mafia or the Unarmed People"]

[Excerpts] Major General Aleksandr Ivanovich Gurov, director of the Security Ministry Scientific Research Institute of Security and a Russian people's deputy, who has devoted his life to fighting organized crime, is categorical:

"What is happening is something we criminologists warned about, indeed rang the alarm bells about back in 1988. The mafia, organized crime, and rackets are flourishing..." [passage omitted]

[Chernyak] Aleksandr Ivanovich, I know you once worked on a commission dealing with "red mercury." Vice President A. Rutskoy raised the question in very strong terms in parliament. PRAVDA has written about it. The president promised to look into it. Time has passed, but nothing has been heard. Although there is talk that "red mercury" does not actually exist. What is it, then, in fact? What crime are we talking about?

[Gurov] It certainly is a complicated business. I would compare it to the medieval alchemists' involvement with gold. But the matter is as simple as it is complicated. Red mercury, or, rather, a substance that dense, does not exist. But there is such a thing as red mercury. It is a slang term for oxide of mercury.

He was a smart man who invented the term red mercury: He had thought of a way of making money out of nothing. Some rogues were arrested for actually producing a liquid colored with brick or paint.

[Chernyak] But what were they selling abroad?

[Guroiv] That is what they were selling. Although they actually sold nothing.

[Chernyak] What do you mean nothing, when there was an entire concern involved in the Urals?

[Gurov] It existed and it still does. But it has not sold anything. Sure, several kilograms of so-called "red mercury" were found at customs, but it was an ordinary oxide. All the world's intelligence agencies have been investigating "red mercury" and they have all reached the conclusion that there is no such substance. The Americans carried out a full-scale study, and the Department of Energy's findings bluntly state that it is a standard ploy, and, incidentally, the Americans prohibited their firms from making deals involving "red mercury." So the compound does not exist, although everyone is seeking it. Prices of the product are

increasing at a fantastic rate and are approaching 1.2 million rubles per kilogram. There are documented sales. But there is none of the actual product. If one assumes that rare earth metals are being exported, the reasonable question is: What is the sense in buying them at that price? Gold, platinum, plutonium—they all cost much less.

It is an interesting fact that there is not a single customer firm in any of these deals, that is, there are only middlemen. There are documents, middlemen—and massive prices. One can only assume that since the substance does not exist, but the documents do, since there are no customers at the end of it, but there are middlemen, and since there are documented bank payments and money is changing hands, it means that what we have here is the laundering of enormous sums of money.

[ChernyaK] What kind of money is this? Drug money?

[Gurov] Maybe. At any rate, it bears the familiar hallmark of organized crime. Let us see what the investigation has to say. [interview ends]

OK, let's wait. But in the meantime... In the meantime there is a war on in Russia.

Minister Denies Authorship of Press Article

PM0107145993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Jun 93 First Edition p 5

[Editorial Office announcement: "Apology"; for article mentioned in paragraph one, see the 29 June Central Eurasia DAILY REPORT, page 42]

[Text] The ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Editorial Office offers an apology to S.Yu. Glazyev, Russia's minister of foreign economic relations, for the publication in our 25 June 1993 issue of an article headlined "There Are Forces Which Oppose the Creation of Currency and Export Controls." S.Yu. Glazyev has nothing whatsoever to do with the authorship of the said article. A gross error has been committed by editorial office workers.

Supreme Soviet

Further Reportage on 1 Jul Parliament Proceedings

Adamishin on U.S. Strike on Baghdad

LD0107195793 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1445 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Report on address by Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Adamishin to the 1 July Supreme Soviet session, with questions by unidentified deputies; from the "Parliamentary Hour" program—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] In connection with the unexpected bombing of Iraq's capital and the subsequent statement by the Russian Foreign Ministry on behalf of the state's leadership, the Russian Supreme Soviet invited Anatoliy Adamishin, first deputy minister of foreign affairs, to attend their session. Deputy Isakov spoke briefly about the reasons for the unplanned hearings.

[Isakov] Respected people's deputies, on the night of 26 June to 27 June, the bombing of Baghdad, the capital of Iraq, was carried out by the United States of America. The reason for this act was the accusation that the leadership of Iraq was assisting in acts of terrorism. The accusation itself has still not been proven and has not yet been formulated in any kind of judicial sentence. The U.S. refers, as a basis for its actions, to Article 51 of the United Nations Charter that provides for the right of self-defense. It is quite clear that that argument is an artificial one; no one attacked the United States.

On the contrary, they considered it possible to perpetrate an act of retribution for a crime that did not take place and was averted. I am not going to cite the different political assessments, motives, and arguments that are being discussed in the press. This act by the United States evoked extremely unambiguous evaluations in the world. Many countries condemned this action as an act of state retribution, as an act of violence, as an act that poisons international atmosphere, capable of returning the world to the times of mistrust and mutual suspicion. In this connection, I think that the Supreme Soviet can express its point of view.

[Adamishin] Allow me, first of all, to touch briefly on the factual aspect of the matter.

First point—On the night of Saturday to Sunday the United States informed us that a major action was being prepared against Iraq, without specifying what sort of action it was, in connection with the act of terrorism committed by the latter. What we received was information about forthcoming actions and not a request for any advice.

Second Point—During the action, itself, as you know, the Iraqi intelligence service building was destroyed as well as a number of neighboring buildings and peaceful inhabitants were killed. The Russian Foreign Ministry expressed condolences to the families of those who were killed. None of the approximately 150 Russian citizens in Baghdad were harmed.

Third Point—On Sunday 27 June the Russian Foreign Ministry issued a commentary that said literally the following: In the Russian leadership's opinion, the United States actions were justified since they are based on the right of a state to individual and collective self-defense, in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter. We hope that mutually acceptable solutions to this bilateral problem will be found without the escalation of military actions.

Fourth Point—On the same day, Sunday, there was a session of the [UN] Security Council called by the United States at which the U.S. set out their arguments. In the main they coincide with the factual information

handed to us that, I hope, the deputies have to hand. As our UN representative Yuriy Mikhaylovich Vorontsov reports, the line that predominated at the session was recognition that the United States actions were a justified response to Iraq's terrorist action. No one, even from among Iraq's traditional defenders among the Muslim countries, tried to cast doubt on their underlying basis.

On the whole I think this falls in with the broader world reaction, even though some countries, primarily Muslim ones, are expressing concern at what has happened, and some, Yemen, Iran, and Sudan, are condemning the U.S. action.

[Deputy] Yesterday's statement by the foreign minister coincides with the opinion of the Foreign Affairs ministry, have I understood that correctly?

[Adamishin] The minister is speaking in the name of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. What is more, in this instance the opinion of the Russian leadership has been expressed.

[Deputy] The laboratory in Eshery is coming under fire every day. Are those really our Russian soldiers there? A decision was adopted on the well-known events in Estonia. Perhaps we too should carry out some kind of punitive strike, in this instance. If you decide to flex your muscles, you have to be fair to the end.

[Adamishin] I have already said in my initial speech that issues of terrorism are already at the forefront of Russia's attention, and will continue to remain there. If you take a look at our latest statements on the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict, if you take a look at the president's statement on the situation in Estonia, you will see that Russia's tongue is getting sharper, getting sharper.

[Deputy Valentina Petrenko] Please tell us if condemnation of a separate event in itself exists in diplomatic practice, or is everything you have just told us and informed us about the general relations between states... [pauses] a whole range of instances, they named others, including purely emotional ones, and so on. My second question: Please tell us how the Foreign Affairs Ministry reached its decision. Was there a special session of the ministry? That is, who was involved in making this decision?

[Adamishin] The position of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, or rather the opinion of the Russian leadership, was expressed on a determined and specific instance, I given read this opinion.

[Petrenko] That is, you categorically believe that an action of this kind was carried out correctly? Yes or no, only one answer or the other.

[Announcer] Unfortunately an affirmative answer followed.

[Petrenko] Specifically, who took a decision on the instance in question, and how was the mechanism for taking this decision, that is it.

[Adamishin] The mechanism for taking the decision has already been developed, and has been put into action, as you understand, and the fact that foreign policy is determined by the president.

[Deputy] How can you explain this, in terms of the law, morality, and your own conscience? You saw on television yesterday the crowds carrying the coffins of killed civilians. Surely you understand that this kind of attack against peaceful and innocent people in the Iraqi capital cannot be considered as justified by us in Russia—and you were speaking on behalf of all Russia. Intelligence services or various other organizations can settle their scores with each other, and they do this. But here we have a case of open state terror. I call on you once again to think and answer this question: Do you have the right to declare in the name of Russia that these acts were justified?

Second question: Surely you understand that a dangerous precedent is being set? Remember the assassination of President Kennedy. His assassinator was accused of being a Soviet intelligence agent. True, he was in this country beforehand and asked for political asylum. Surely you understand that somewhere in one of the Arab countries, such as Kuwait, some terrorists could be arrested and forced to admit to everything on Earth? The next strike could be against, I don't know, Lubyanka Square or Children's World [department store opposite the Lubyanka]. You as a diplomat should ask yourself: What are you up to?

[Adamishin] The Supreme Soviet is entitled to voice its opinion on this matter, but I do not think that passions are running quite that high over who can speak out for Russia and who cannot. I think the second question was the same as the first, is that right?

[Deputy] [words indistinct]

[Announcer] Adamishin never did give an answer about the possibility of Moscow city center being bombed; he either forgot or did not want to.

[Deputy] You said that the previous evening the U.S. leadership notified Russia. Who did they notify of their intention to deliver a strike against Baghdad? What suggestions did the Russian leadership make in response to this decision by the United States?

Another question: Is it your opinion, regarding the United Nations Organization as the world community of states, do you not think that this organization has in recent times been turned into a rubber stamp for such acts of state terror? If you have the time, I can provide examples of the United Nations recently acting as a cover for the U.S. to commit genocide. What is your opinion, and that of the Foreign Ministry as a whole?

[Adamishin] Notification that something was being prepared, without specific details, as I have already said, of its nature, was provided in the form of a message from the U.S. President to the Russian President. It was forwarded to the Foreign Ministry at 0120 on Sunday morning.

The actual strike against Baghdad took place about one hour later, so there simply was not time to voice any opinions about it.

The second question, about the role of the United Nations. I have to tell you that what you are saying could be dangerous, could be dangerous [repeats]. However, I think that many states in the world, Russia included, are making efforts to ensure that the UN takes considered and appropriate decisions.

[Deputy] During the time of Operation Desert Storm there were reports that the U.S. was preparing to physically eliminate Saddam Husayn. If we follow your logic, is this sufficient justification for Iraq to launch a missile strike against Washington?

[Adamishin] What? Are you saying that I should decide for Baghdad whether to launch missiles against Washington or vice versa? Sorry! [heckling from floor] For us? That does not arise—we are not launching our missiles against anyone. Not at the moment, anyway!

[Same deputy] So you are applying different standards to different countries. If you will permit me, I have three more questions. The first: Sorry, but I did not understand from your statement what eight Iraqis paid with their lives for. Was it for Iraq's bad behavior, for its intransigence over a solution to the Kuwait crisis, or for a failed assassination attempt against [former] President Bush?

[Adamishin] My explanation is that in this case the U.S. responded to preparations to commit an act of international terrorism, and that in law—although schools of legal thought do vary on this—their response is justified in terms of the right to self-defense. The fact that civilians were killed is of course regrettable. [editing cut]

[Isakov] In this hall we have already heard Russia's foreign policy concept. It says, in particular, that Russia is committed to, and regards as essential, peaceful ways of resolving all international disputes. In your opinion, does the Russian Foreign Ministry's approval of the U.S. action fit this concept of Russian foreign policy?

[Adamishin] On the one hand, Russia's position is that all conflicts should be resolved by peaceful means. But this does not at all mean that Russia's position is that force should never be used anywhere. We shall ourselves apply force if our national interests are at stake. [editing cut]

[Deputy] You were talking about the Russian leadership. We did in fact have a leadership once, that was called Soviet, in August 1991. But it was shown on television in time, and then ended up in prison. Could you name the Russian leadership, so that we know who and what is involved?

[Adamishin] I can see what you are getting at, and will not of course name anyone. [laughter from hall]

[Announcer] They have done their job well at the Foreign Ministry. Now they can have a laugh. Great diplomacy—or cynicism?

[Deputy] Clinton opted for this strike because of his domestic political situation, because that situation is difficult and he had to boost his popularity ratings somehow. I think our Foreign Affairs Ministry will also do well to occasionally think about our domestic political situation, and about what state it is representing today. People of various nationalities and religions live in our state at present, including people who have close links to Iraq. For this reason alone, could your statement not have been a little more restrained?

Secondly, in recent times we have been watching the U.S., on the international arena, acting de facto with impunity and not giving a damn about the rights or fates of other peoples. Nothing at all is holding the U.S. back now, in my opinion, and indeed it was very difficult to do that. But bombing Mogadishu or Baghdad—whose capital are they going to bomb tomorrow? I simply cannot imagine. I am not talking about the reasons—they do not matter, because you can always find reasons and pretexts. I cannot find any other words. This is simply a servile attitude to take, proving your faith in the U.S. in this manner, and this is absolutely unforgivable of the foreign minister, in my opinion.

[Deputy] Let us at long last talk about who we are. For how much longer can this continue? These people who talk in the name of Russia—I listen to foreign radio stations and read western newspapers; and there is this voice—the voice of Russia. Everyone says that Russia has given its approval, regards it as justified. How long are we going to talk and talk and not do anything? How much longer is this shame going to continue? [name indistinct] was right to say shame. But it goes beyond shame. You can see that these people have no conscience.

For example, deputy (Moldin) said that he used to be proud of our country. Yet all (Moldin) and I can do now is take pride in the bits of Russia that are still left. We will still defend them. But let us at last show the outside world that this justification of murder of poor Iraqi civilians is not justification on behalf of Russia. There is another voice in Russia: The Supreme Soviet, that in actual fact lays down foreign policy, remember that? We should show our people that we are not all like them [those in the Foreign Ministry]. That there are still real people in Russia.

[Deputy Pavlov] (Vladimir) Sergeyevich, please excuse me but since I have not been given a chance to speak I would like to do so from the rostrum. As far as I am

concerned, there is nothing to debate here. I ask all deputies who are not in the U.S.-Israeli lobby to come to us and sign a letter to the president demanding Kozyrev's resignation. Thank you.

[Announcer] The Supreme Soviet passed the text of a statement on this extraordinary event, the bombing of Iraq, by an absolute majority with two votes against. The United States of America has carried out the bombing of targets in the capital of Iraq, Baghdad, under the pretext of Iraq's allegedly proven complicity in preparations for an attempt on the life of a former president of the United States. There are civilian casualties. The Supreme Soviet declares that such actions are in breach of the principles of international law and revive the cult of power in international relations.

This arrogation of the right to pronounce and carry out a sentence is a flagrant violation of international legal channels for resolution of conflicts, and could consign the world back to an age of hostility and mutual mistrust. Expressing its condolences to the relatives of the dead, the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation declares a protest against this act of international violence committed by the United States of America.

Resolution on Estonia Passed

LD0107171393 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1100 GMT 1 Jul 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The resolution on the position of the Russian-speaking community in Estonia that was adopted by the Supreme Soviet today shows that Russia's deputies are becoming increasingly concerned at violations of human rights in this Baltic republic. The resolution instructs the government to adopt the entire range of measures needed to exert political and economic pressure on Estonia. The deputies instructed state delegations to raise the question of human rights violations in Estonia with international interparliamentary organizations. They instructed the government to report back within a month on the measures it has taken.

Parliament also amended the Law on the Rehabilitation of Repressed Peoples. It was noted that, in accordance with the law, 600,000 citizens have applied for compensation payments. It is thought that another 400,000 people are entitled to claim this compensation. [video shows electronic board showing a vote of 66 to 0 in the Soviet of the Republic]

A resolution on urgent financial and economic support for the Black Sea fleet is also on the agenda. This will be considered during the evening session.

Resolution on Budget Passed

LD0107222393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1557 GMT 1 Jul 93

[by ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Jul—The Russian Supreme Soviet passed a resolution today on the financing of state expenditures for the third quarter of this year, with its wording amended to reflect comments aired during the debate on it and a compromise reached with government representatives.

The document resolved to "take note" of the Russian Government's report on finalization [utochneniye] of figures in the republican budget for 1993. It also mandated the government to submit to parliament on 5 July its finalized forecasts for the socioeconomic development of the country for this year that form the basis for the budget's revenue side, and also extensive information on its foreign exchange incomes and outgoings.

The government was permitted to finance state expenditure before the budget is adopted to avoid disruption to the financing of the state sector of the economy. Approximately 150 percent more money is being allocated than in the first quarter. For protected expenditure items—education, health care, culture, science, social welfare, defense, and law-enforcement agencies—40 percent of the annual spending envisaged in the draft finalized republican budget is being allocated. Other sectors of the economy will get one third of their annual provision.

Credits from the Central Bank are essential to ensure that this financing takes place, in addition to the budget revenues, so the government was allowed to take a loan of R [rubles] 3.2 trillion "within the scope of the total credit for these purposes laid down for 1993." The government and Central Bank were mandated to ensure credits for enterprises in July and August, drawing on R700 billion in investment and defense conversion credits allocated in the first half year.

The resolution states that "decisions by federal authorities leading to an increase in 1993 of budget outgoings at any level or of expenditure of extra-budgetary funds may be taken only as a result of finalization of the figures in the Russian Federation republican budget for 1993."

'Repressed Peoples' Law Amended

LD0107133693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1227 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[Text] Moscow July 1 TASS—The Russian parliament on Thursday [1 July] passed in the second reading the law on supplements and amendments to the Russian law "on the rehabilitation of repressed ethnic groups".

Under the new act, the Russian law "on the rehabilitation of victims of political reprisals" applies to citizens from among repressed ethnic groups who were subjected to reprisals in the Russian territory because of their

nationality or for other reasons. The stage-by-stage compensation for the damage to repressed ethnic groups and individuals is also envisaged.

The need for supplements is explained by the fact that the law on rehabilitation adopted in April 1991 did not specify the mechanism for rehabilitation and restoration of the rights of individuals from among deported peoples. The Russian Federation's law with supplements and amendments adopted on Thursday is aimed at easing social tension and restoring justice.

Under the law on rehabilitation of repressed ethnic groups, 600 thousand citizens from among repressed ethnic groups turned for monetary compensation by May 1993. The law is expected to apply to another 400 thousand.

Shaposhnikov Demands Apology From Deputies

LD0107134393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1310 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Jul (ITAR-TASS)—Air Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, whose confirmation in the post of executive secretary of Russia's Security Council was considered in the Russian Supreme Soviet yesterday, has taken what the deputies said about him as an unwarranted insult.

In an interview with ITAR-TASS the former commander in chief of the CIS troops expressed bewilderment at the atmosphere in parliament. "I went into the Supreme Soviet session with the intention of setting out an outline of Russia's security and my professional views on enhancing its effectiveness, to hear parliament's recommendations and get down to work," Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov said. "In the end the deputies did not allow me to speak and started making accusations about the purchase of Mercedes cars." True, Shaposhnikov noted, "all by themselves they made it clear that this was not a matter for me, but for the defense minister, but they went straight on to accusations about the collapse of the USSR, although I had no part in ratification of the Belovezha agreements."

In Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov's words, the deputies expected him to "swear oaths of loyalty to the Supreme Soviet, then my confirmation in the new post would have gone through amid applause. But I serve no political group," the marshal noted.

We recall that parliament has deferred the issue of confirming Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov in the post of executive secretary of the Security Council for one week. However, the air marshal, stating that he was in principle a man of good will, told the ITAR-TASS correspondent that he would expect apologies from deputies Vitaliy Sevastyanov and Nikolay Pavlov by the end of this week. Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov intends to inform the Supreme Soviet of this in an open letter.

Further Shaposhnikov Comment

LD0107201893 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Interview with Air Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov by unidentified correspondent on 1 July; place not given; from the "Novosti" newscast—recorded]

[Text] In response to yesterday's discussion in the Supreme Soviet of the confirmation of Marshal Shaposhnikov's appointment as secretary of the Security Council, Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov has decided to send an official letter to the Supreme Soviet.

[Correspondent] What is the main thing in the letter?

[Shaposhnikov] The main thing is that by postponing its consideration of my appointment for a week the Supreme Soviet has put me in a difficult position. On the one hand, as a citizen of Russia, I should appear before the Supreme Soviet, but on the other my human qualities do not allow me to appear before an audience that humiliates and insults me. Consequently, I am proposing to them that this matter not be considered in the Supreme Soviet until the deputies who humiliated and insulted me, in particular [Vitaliy] Sevastyanov and [Nikolay] Pavlov, have apologized to me publicly.

[Correspondent] Yevgeniy Ivanovich, surely you do not consider that the whole Supreme Soviet has the same attitude as this small group of deputies?

[Shaposhnikov] You know, I still have the hope—a weak hope, it is true, since I found myself in this atmosphere yesterday and I had not been to the Supreme Soviet for a long time. The hope is that parliament will manage to dissociate itself from these conservative individuals who have grown so accustomed, so to speak, to the old way of thinking and to what you could describe as forcible and insulting methods of resolving problems. If this occurs, then I think... [pauses] Incidentally Yakunin in his speech yesterday called precisely for this, saying that Shaposhnikov's appointment and his presentation here to parliament constitute yet another hand extended to parliament by the president, because Shaposhnikov—in Yakunin's words, and I know this myself—is not mixed up in any political business.

Parliament's Anti-Shaposhnikov Vote Assessed

PM0107140393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jul 93 First Edition p 2

[Sergey Chugayev report: "Russian Supreme Soviet Refused To Confirm Ye. Shaposhnikov as Secretary of Security Council"]

[Text] As expected, the discussion of Ye. Shaposhnikov's candidacy which took place at the 30 June morning joint sitting of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet session, in order to confirm him in the post of secretary of the Security Council, proved very stormy. In the end, parliament voted against the marshal's appointment. It

was decided to return to this issue in a week's time, and during this time to discuss Shaposhnikov's candidacy in committees and commissions and, at the same time, to listen to the explanations of the marshal's predecessor—Yu. Skokov—about the reasons for his resignation.

It is, however, hard to say now whether this discussion will take place and whether parliament will return at all to the debate on Shaposhnikov's candidacy. Delivering a concluding speech at the end of the debate, Shaposhnikov reported that a number of deputies' speeches had led him to the decision to resign: "I cannot hold a state post and fight these insolent people. I will fight them outside of state service."

It has to be admitted that Shaposhnikov had grounds for such a harsh statement. You might think that the figure of the marshal is quite well known both to the Supreme Soviet leadership and to ordinary deputies. It was legitimate to expect the candidate for the post of Security Council secretary to be asked questions concerning precisely the specific nature of his future work. But the majority of the marshal's opponents tried to concentrate their fire on preselected targets, accusing him of complicity with corruption in the army, with the breakup of the USSR's armed forces, and suchlike. Shaposhnikov had evidently foreseen these attacks and, as a professional soldier, employed an effective countermaneuver which disarmed his opponents in advance. Before the start of the debate the marshal issued a brief statement in which he destroyed quite convincingly the charges laid against him after A. Rutskoy's well-known statement.

The marshal reported, in particular, that he it was who had exposed instances of abuses in the Western Group of Forces on the part of a number of military trade leaders when he was still USSR minister of defense. The name of General Sadovnikov was mentioned in particular. The damage at the time amounted to 15 million German marks. Shaposhnikov dismissed those leaders, sent the materials to the General Prosecutor's Office, and appointed Gen. Karakozov in Sadovnikov's place. But the documents were returned from the Prosecutor's Office, and at the same time intensified attacks began on Gen. Karakozov and then also on Shaposhnikov. The marshal believes that the reason for this was that Karakozov had debarred a number of West German firms from cooperation with the Western Group of Forces.

Shaposhnikov also refuted Rutskoy's statements that 13 airfields of the Western Group of Forces were handed over to German firms on his instructions. "Not one airfield was handed over. I will keep quiet about the proposals the vice president put to me with regard to those airfields," Shaposhnikov declared.

This speech did not, however, impress the opposition. This was shown by the results of the vote on confirming the marshal's candidacy for the post of Security Council secretary. As it came to light in the course of further discussion, there is no way it could have impressed it. It seems that the opposition was not interested in either the moral or the professional qualities of the candidate. It could be seen that they could not forgive the marshal for his sympathies with the president or, particularly, his walking out of the Seventh Congress together with B. Yeltsin. Being unable to level specific charges at the marshal, the opposition was forced to resort to insults. Deputy V. Sevostyanov surpassed everyone by declaring that the marshal was neither honest nor a patriot.

Strictly speaking, few observers or deputies doubted that the Supreme Soviet would not "block" Shaposhnikov's candidacy. Just because it had been submitted by the president. The opposition in the form of "Russian Unity" has a strong majority in parliament. At the same time, however, there are some grounds for saying that changes are occurring in the sentiments within parliament.

Above all, a large group of deputies of democratic factions who previously had essentially been boycotting the sittings of parliament returned within the walls of the Supreme Soviet and participated actively in the discussion of the Security Council secretary's candidacy, naturally coming out in support of Shaposhnikov. But more important is a thought that had not been heard from the lips of radical democrats for a long time. Thus, Deputy G. Yakunin warned his colleagues that the crack that has formed between the president and the Supreme Soviet is turning into a gulf, and it is necessary to return to cooperation with the president in order to preserve the Supreme Soviet and the Congress. Maybe the leaders of the democratic factions have concluded that the creation of a bloc of democrats and centrists countering the opposition is more promising than attempts to exclude the Supreme Soviet and the Congress from politics in one way or another.

It is also curious that Shaposhnikov received strong support from R. Khasbulatov, which, however, proved insufficient. Under cover of the vote on the Security Council secretary's candidacy, however, Khasbulatov unexpectedly proposed a simultaneous vote in favor of including V. Agafonov, his own deputy, as a permanent member of the Security Council. If you consider that First Deputy Speaker Yu. Voronin is already a permanent member of the Security Council, then the situation appears curious. Khasbulatov justified his proposal by saying that Voronin is overloaded with other business. But, in the opinion of observers, there are grounds for supposing that disagreements have arisen between the Supreme Soviet chairman and his immediate first deputy.

Khasbulatov's Activity 'Casts a Slur' on Fellow Deputies

PM0107154593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 2

["Abridged version" of appeal from a group of Russian Federation Supreme Soviet people's deputies under the general heading: "Deputies Against Khasbulatov"]

[Text] The editorial office has received the text of an appeal from a group of Russian Federation people's deputies calling for a vote of no confidence in Supreme Soviet Chairman R. Khasbulatov. We offer an abridged version for our readers' perusal. To date this appeal has been signed by 80 deputies, including Sergey Filatov, Vyacheslav Volkov, Gleb Yakunin, Nikolay Ryabov, Yevgeniy Kozhokin, Yevgeniy Ambartsumov, Viktor Sheynis, Vladimir Podoprigora, Sergey Yushenkov, Aleksandr Kotenkov, and many others.

Signatures are still being collected. Cables of support are still being received. We give you the address to which cables can be sent: Peoples Deputy Valeriy Iosifovich Yevdokimov, Room 492, Entrance 3, 8/5 Staraya Ploshchad, Moscow, 103132.

The Appeal

...The practical work of the Russian Supreme Soviet causes serious misgivings about the future of emergent parliamentarianism. The usurpation of the right to act on the people's behalf—this ill-renowned phenomenon in our country's political life—has become the rule for the leadership of the Russian Supreme Soviet. Refusing to accept any viewpoint other than their own and striving to impose decisions beneficial to themselves at any cost are common practice for the parliament's leaders. Attempts by people's deputies to simply voice their own opinion are suppressed in the best traditions of the "father of the peoples," while the chamber commissions and Russian Supreme Soviet committees that try to uphold the right of people's deputies to set out their own opinion rather than the views of the Russian Supreme Soviet's leaders are being eliminated. In effect the dissolution of the Committee for the Mass Media, the Committee for Economic Reform and Property, and the Committee for Legislation is jeopardizing the process of democratic transformations in Russia. Persecution on political grounds is forcing many Russian people's deputies to abandon their active work at the Supreme Soviet.

The violation of the constitutional principle of separation of powers and the Supreme Soviet's customary practice of appropriating the functions of the executive and judicial authorities is a direct throwback to the Leninist concept of the "sovereignty of the soviets," which has nothing to do with true parliamentarism...

We Russian Federation people's deputies consider that the activity of the leader of the Russian Supreme Soviet casts a slur on Russia's whole corps of deputies and on the very idea of representative democracy and compromises the reforms begun by the Congress of Russian People's Deputies. We urge all Russian people's deputies to express no confidence in the current leader of the Russian Supreme Soviet in order to create true parliamentarism in Russia, maintain stability in the country, and preserve the Russian state itself.

Opposition Deputy Hits Campaign To 'Discredit' Parliament

PM0107132193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jun 93 First Edition p 2

[Aleksandr Linkov report: "Parliament: Another Campaign by Radical Reformers"]

[Text] A report has been distributed through the news agencies about the initiative of a group of deputies who have urged their colleagues to express no confidence in the Supreme Soviet leadership.

The appeal is the work of radical reformist forces in parliament. Meanwhile the opposition is also far from enraptured with the actions of the Supreme Soviet leadership. It has been voicing plenty of criticism. You would expect them to pool their efforts here. But this is how opposition leader Vladimir Isakov views the situation:

"I have repeatedly criticized the Supreme Soviet leadership. I was one of those at the recent Congress of People's Deputies who called for the early reelection of the Supreme Soviet chairman. But in this specific instance I cannot support the authors of the appeal and I am not going to do so. Because what we are dealing with now is not a pluralism of opinions but a deliberate campaign to wreck parliament and discredit the parliamentary system."

Defense Committee Seen Negligent on Security Issues

PM0207091793 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jun 93 p 1

[Article by Vyacheslav Semenov: "The Security of the Country Without Supervision, When the Supreme Soviet Defense Committee Takes Its Cue From the Government"]

[Text] There are some things which cannot be allowed to drift. One would have thought that the Defense and Security Committee, as a key structure of the Russian Supreme Soviet, and committee chairman S. Stepashin ought not to be bound by any obligations to any power structures, other than to their own people, the state, and the Supreme Soviet. However, political bias prevailing over professional ethics and objectivity, and conciliatory postures vis-a-vis the executive power have recently become increasingly apparent in the work of the committee—and in the work of its chairman, in particular.

Let us analyze the facts.

First of all, a conceptual basis for Russia's national (state) security policy is needed in order to make two things possible: First, the systematic, practical implementation of measures designed to safeguard and protect Russia's vital interests and, second, the monitoring of these measures by a representative power.

There is no such thing in current Russian practice. Where then is the committee's voice and initiative? And Russia's military doctrine: Does it exist? In a recent interview with NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, Defense Minister P. Grachev said that a draft of the "conceptual directives for building the new Russian Armed Forces with which we will enter the 21st century" has already been discussed by the Security Council, and he expressed the hope that it will be adopted "sometime in June." Once again, the question arises: What is the role of the Defense and Security Committee in this process?

Russia has received a substantial proportion of the former Soviet Union's military legacy in the form of personnel, equipment, weapons, and supporting infrastructure. Of course, deciding how to transform all this into an efficient Russian Army is no easy matter. Even if we are talking about the old treaties bequeathed to Russia by the USSR—namely, START I and the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe—the situation is in fact far from straightforward. There is no need to remind you that they were drawn up and concluded in a quite different political and strategic context. The Defense Ministry recently expressed its concern in this connection, but its voice went unheeded by those in parliament who, generally speaking, should have been listening.

Is it state wisdom to discuss the future without first analyzing the past? The Supreme Soviet is now faced with the task of ratifying START II. But the Defense and Security Committee is literally allowing this matter to drift. Meanwhile, it would take more than a dozen newspaper pages to set out the conclusions of an independent commission of experts, which show just how many hidden reefs there in fact are in this issue and how many points have not been taken into consideration by the Russian side.

However, I do not wish bluntly to accuse the entire membership of the Defense Committee. Some are professionals and, as far as I am aware, their stand has not been reduced to indiscriminate grunts of approval. On what grounds therefore did S. Stepashin appear on the "small screen" and announce that during conversations with U.S. senators the committee outlined ways to make further cuts in offensive weapons beyond the levels envisaged by START II? Ratification of START II is evidently a foregone conclusion as far as the committee chairman is concerned. He seems to have forgotten that the Supreme Soviet and the committee itself are collective bodies.

The committee's attitude toward the problems faced by Armed Forces personnel also leaves much to be desired. In 1992 alone, 15 divisions, 23 rocket, artillery, and antiaircraft brigades, and 36 air regiments—which is comparable in size to the entire German or French Army—arrived on Russian territory from the former Soviet republics and Germany. But who prepared the draft resolution "On Additional Measures To Ensure the Reception and Provision of Facilities for Russian Troops Withdrawn From Other States Onto the Territory of the Russian Federation"? The Committee for Invalid and War and Labor Veteran Affairs, it seems. So this too is not the responsibility of the Defense and Security Committee?

Some 18,000 Russian servicemen are now carrying out so-called peacemaking functions. But does the involvement of Russian troops in such actions accord with Russia's vital interests as a whole and in each specific case? Is there any legislative base defining the rights and responsibilities of those who—in peacetime for Russia—sometimes pay with their lives for politicians' inadequate response, to put it mildly, to the problem of Russia's security? Here too, the committee's passivity is simply amazing....

The conclusion is concerned with organizational issues. Those who unequal to the task must leave. The fire-fighting troops and the party work among them are, of course, a necessity—but nevertheless it would probably be better if the Defense and Security Committee were headed by someone with a broader professional outlook than S. Stepashin, who has defended a thesis on the above subject but has not made a very brilliant showing in practical work to safeguard our state security.

Investigated Officials Say Prosecutor 'Playing Politics'

PM0207084993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jun 93 First Edition pp 1,2

[Aleksey Vorobyev commentary: "Accusations of 'Playing Politics' Again. This Time Aimed at the Prosecutor's Office"]

[Text] In the very near future legal practice could acquire a new method. Instead of proving innocence based on the facts a defendant will show the public his client's party card and declare that he is being convicted on purely political grounds. Even if it is a case of bag-snatching on a streetcar. And the effectiveness of this method of defense will depend directly on the strength and influence of the party with which the defendant is registered.

That prospect is emerging as the result of an analysis of the reaction of certain high-ranking officials in the executive to the charges of corruption voiced at 24 June's Supreme Soviet session. The first deputy prosecutor general and the leadership of parliament were simultaneously accused of political intrigues and of attempting to thwart the "victorious march" of the Constitutional Conference. However, the officials named in the report were unable to say anything specific on the facts cited there.

Consequently the question is this: What are they actually unhappy about here? Is it the fact that Prosecutor Nikolay Makarov spoke in parliament? But he was obliged to do so because the supreme organ of legislative

power authorized him to investigate materials distributed by the vice president and requested an account of progress in the investigation. This is all in accordance with the law. Or did someone see political intrigues in the fact that a number of well-known people were mentioned by name, even though of course they do actually figure in the case.

The politically committed press and the Kremlin team pinned their hopes on the presumption of innocence, saying that no one has the right to go to court and demand the dismissal of a state official. It is just that prosecutor Makarov did not call anyone a criminal. He merely stated that the officials named had signed certain papers, issued permits and benefits, or, conversely, had not done things that they should have done. Even if the colleagues of these officials had seen a criminal accusation in what was a simple statement of the facts, that is so much the worse for the "heroes" of the report. But what has that to do with politics?

Investigating the actions of top officials in our country has always been difficult. They are always busy, they have access to any compromising documents before the prosecutor, and even then, according to the evidence of the Prosecutor's Office, M. Poltoranin refused to appear for questioning, investigators had to be sent to V. Shumeyko's office to see him, and G. Burbulis ignored four prosecutor's summonses. How is one to conduct matters in these conditions? How can abuses really be exposed? It is clear that there must be an open and public treatment of certain stages in an investigation so that people can be informed about relations between officials and the justice system.

The conflict between the legislative and executive structures was initially limited to each side's revoking or ignoring the normative documents issued by the other. The executive came off best here precisely because of its executive nature, whereas the parliamentarians were mainly drawing the borders of the new constitutional playing field. The frequent violation of those borders inevitably became part of a conflict between the legal arbiters—the court and the Prosecutor's Office.

If only people had had faith in their honesty and professionalism at the right time, the aggravation of the situation could have been avoided. But, given the absence of a clear state strategy in the Kremlin, of course, the policy of personal interests prevailed, and this policy by its very nature cannot be submitted to any independent arbitration. Because the latter is supposed to hold all ambitions of power in check.

This fact forced the Kremlin team to launch an attack on the Constitutional Court. Incidentally, a society stunned by the prosecutor's revelations overlooked a far more drastic political gesture—the president's demonstrably unlawful edict whereby Russian property abroad is transferred to the Federal Information Center was revoked by the Congress and the Constitutional Court. If the president has been "set up" again here, let us admit that this is too cynical and crude.

By undermining the authority of the Constitutional Court's decisions, the executive has removed one of the foundation stones under the edifice of the Russian state system. Now it is the turn of another of those foundation stones—the Prosecutor's Office. The pattern, it seems, will be the same: As soon as an investigation touches the interests of the Kremlin leaders they accuse the Prosecutor's Office of "playing politics" and, using that well-known pretext, begin to ignore it. It is not hard to foresee that the propaganda campaign against the prosecutor's office will intensify in the days ahead, and the investigators' demands to restrict the access of state officials to documents featuring in the case will be rejected. And as V. Shumeyko has already hinted, there are attempts to replace the Prosecutor's Office investigation itself by one spearheaded by some presidential commission.

After such public contempt, it is difficult to see how the Prosecutor's Office can demand the rigorous execution of the law from some minor clerk or petty crook. On the other hand it is conceivable that the next to be accused of politicization will be the Ministry of Security, for example, where according to the evidence of a number of officers the tacit instruction to destroy any compromising material about top officials is still in force; and then it will be the turn of the other power structures.

It must be understood, however, that if a judge, a prosecutor, or a state official is going to be restricted in the performance of his direct duties by political motives (which is happening increasingly often nowadays), he will soon seal his professional fate. The existing state power will lose any support from him.;

Let us imagine that, as a result of a fierce and cynical political fight some time in the fall, the present parliament ceases to exist and the Kremlin team finally achieves unlimited power. What state institutions will they be able to count on then? The court, whose verdicts will have no force on the components of the Federation? Disillusioned staff of the power ministries who have lost their sense of professionalism? And what will that power consist of then?

Government Proposes Austerity Budget Program

MK0107130093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 2

[Aleksandr Slavuk, Radmir Kilmatov report in "Supreme Soviet on Budget" column: "Parliament Authorizes Government Spending"]

[Text] Yesterday Boris Fedorov, Russia's vice premier and finance minister, presented in parliament a draft law "On Adjusting Indicators for the Russian Federation's Republican Budget for 1993." The government's guideline in finalizing the budget was not to allow a critical budget deficit limit (10 percent) to be exceeded. Going beyond that limit, according to Fedorov, would mean a

full loss of control over Russia's finances. Following the debate, the Supreme Soviet adopted a draft decree by the plans and budget commission "On Financing State Expenditures From the Republican Budget of the Russian Federation in the Third Quarter of 1993" and decided to set up a working group to finalize the draft budget.

One of the main points in Boris Fedorov's speech was the extreme conditions under which the government has to work, including on budgetary matters. The delay in presenting the draft, in the finance minister's opinion, was related to the decisions of the supreme legislative and executive bodies on spending, which actually demolished the old budget. They resulted in a growth of state spending by 8.2 trillion rubles [R]. With these expenditures the budget deficit would amount to R19.8 trillion (17.2 percent of GDP), which would thwart any efforts by the government to ensure financial stabilization. The government's budget plan, on the other hand, is, according to KOMMERSANT-DAILY experts, an integral part of the financial stabilization program.

As is known, in the May-June period the government took austerity measures, under-using approximately R500 billion in Central Bank credits allocated for the second quarter. The government envisions that austerity measures also be introduced into the budget. The deficit financed with inflationary Central Bank credits should, according to government estimates, stay within 10 percent of GDP, or R12 trillion. Overrunning this sum, established as the allowed maximum, would lead to a financial catastrophe and cause another inflation upsurge, the responsibility for which, along with a deepening economic crisis, would have to be assumed by the Supreme Soviet (insisting that the budget item indexation coefficient be established at 5.6 times).

To minimize the budget deficit, various measures are to be undertaken, including reduction of unwarranted subsidies, primarily on imports. First priority in increasing budget revenues is given to fuel excise duties (as prices gradually move toward world levels). It is also proposed to establish VAT-type deductions to special funds to provide support for the agricultural sector and the coal industry (a 4 percent tax for agriculture and a 3 percent tax for the coal sector). By increasing taxes 7 percent, the government is expecting to cut deductions to the pension fund to 21.6 percent. Spending on most budget items is to be reduced by 15 percent, including "protected" items. It is planned to suspend some articles of Russian laws providing for additional concessions.

All these measures, according to government expert estimates, would allow a cut in the budget deficit to R11.9 trillion (10.4 percent of GDP) and keep inflation within reasonable limits. According to Fedorov, the proposed budget, for all its austerity, is realistic—in other words, 80 to 90 percent of it can be implemented (as against 40 percent at present).

Commenting on the proposed draft budget, Veniamin Sokolov, chairman of the Soviet of the Republic, stressed that the draft's flaws stemmed from the government's approach to the economy. According to Sokolov, it is necessary to abandon tax pressure and thereby create conditions for overcoming the production decline. Following the results of the discussion, parliamentarians accepted as a basis for further work the draft decree by the Supreme Soviet's plans and budget commission which provides for finalization of the draft budget by 6 July, with an obligatory disclosure of all budget items in hard currency, and authorizes the financing of state spending in the amount of one-third of annual appropriations envisioned under the draft budget.

[Article is accompanied by following boxed passage]

The main characteristics of Russia's federal budget (in billions of rubles)

Budget items	Envisioned under republican budget law	As adjusted
Revenues—overall	10201.9	24477.5
Expenditures—overall	18725.2	39453.9
Expenditure to revenue balance (+)	-8523.2	-114976.4
Revenue to expenditure balance (-) including results on credit operations	-7235.3	-11926.4
As percentage of expenditure	38.6	30.2
In percentage of GNP	12.2	10.4

Government Blamed for Delays in Formulating Budget

PM0207083193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Jul 93 First Edition pp 1, 2

[Parliamentary observer Aleksey Vorobyev report: "Story of a Contentious Budget: Passions Rise"]

[Text] In recent days government circles, forced somehow to justify themselves for holding back miners' and servicemen's wages and grants to higher educational institutions, have been hinting ever more vigorously that parliament is to blame for this. The deputies, it is alleged, simply will not ratify the 1993 budget, so there is nowhere to obtain the money from. So it is toward them, dear citizens, that you should turn your indignation.

In today's tense situation this argument could appear pretty strong, but for the fact that it is totally false.

"The situation is quite the opposite," Council of the Republic Chairman Veniamin Sokolov said at a meeting with journalists in the White House. "We are working

very closely with the government on the budget, and we are resolving our tasks effectively."

The story of Russia's 1993 Budget is tiresome and instructive. At the start of fall 1992 Yegor Gaydar implored the Supreme Soviet not to hurry the government over preparing the document, claiming that otherwise it would not hang together. So the submission deadlines were postponed several times. At the end of January, by now under Viktor Chernomyrdin, when the delay had surpassed all conceivable norms of decency, parliament did in fact receive the text of the budget message. And major errors were discovered in it right away. For some reason all the calculations were done at November 1992 prices, and in addition optimists from the Economy Ministry were suggesting that inflation would rise by a factor of 2.5 at most this year.

A budget with such flaws is not worth examining seriously, but an artificially-created sense of urgency forced parliament nevertheless to launch into endless debate and discussions. Although, in fact, very little was being asked of the government: merely that all indicators should be recalculated at 1 January 1993 prices and indexed with due account of the real, and not an invented, level of inflation. The final agreed date for completing this work was 20 May, but it was not until 28 June that parliament received the accurate budget. At the same time the Finance Ministry asserts that it simply does not have the money for emergency payments.

"I see nothing strange in this, however," Aleksandr Pochinok, chairman of the Commission for the Budget, Plans, Taxes, and Prices, said after attending the session concerned. "In an effort to smother inflation at any price, Finance Minister Boris Fedorov is restricting the entry of new money supplies into circulation and stoically refraining from accepting credit. But there is still around R2 trillion in the Central Bank which the Finance Ministry is entitled to spend in the second quarter, and the requisite payments will probably be made out of this money. Whether or not the method by which Boris Fedorov is handling inflationary processes is too simplistic is another question..."

It is hard to argue with the experts' view: Many experts point out the persistent wish of the last two Cabinets of Ministers to resolve the most complex problems by pressing a single button.

There was a separate discussion on the hard currency section of the budget. As before, it lacks even rough outlines. Veniamin Sokolov explained how he had recently gathered together representatives of departments concerned with foreign economic transactions and how these experts, meeting for the first time, talked for five hours. The result was to reveal the country's total lack of a hard currency policy, and of hard currency accounting and monitoring. It is thanks to this that, according to various estimates, between $5 and $20 billion were deposited abroad in 1992.

"If you recalculate according to last year's average ruble exchange rate, then the figure covers the budget deficit of that time with some to spare," Veniamin Sokolov stressed. "Against a background of such enormous losses, it is crazy to try to fight inflation by cutting individual items from the budget."

Of course, passions over the budget will continue—this is the conclusion that can be drawn from the results of the White House meeting. Especially as the document presented to parliament this week will contain new, extremely dubious, if not dangerous ideas. However, this argument, though it may be somewhat bitter, does in principle fit within the bounds of normal practice in the relationship between parliament and government. And in a bid to overcome conflicts over the deadlines for submitting the budget and detailing its items, parliamentarians have already created a new budget handbook [klassifikator] for 1994, thanks to which there will be far greater efficiency in monitoring the source and specified use of taxpayers' money.

Nationalities Soviet Orders Aid for Regions

PM0107132993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[Aleksandr Linkov report: "Sixth Session of the Supreme Soviet: The Soviet of Nationalities: It's Tough in the North but No Easier in the South"]

[Text] Northern Russia and the problems of its peoples are receiving close attention in parliament. Yesterday the Soviet of Nationalities examined the fulfillment of the Supreme Soviet decree of 15 June 1992 "On Urgent Measures to Stabilize the Socioeconomic Situation in the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug and Magadan Oblast." As members of the chamber were told by V. Yetylen, chairman of the Chukotka Okrug Soviet, under this decree some progress has been made in halting the crisis phenomena. Nevertheless, the situation remains extremely complex. The agrarian sector has suffered a major blow. Indicators in reindeer breeding have declined to the level of the thirties. The social infrastructure has collapsed. The region is nearly 50 percent short of the required number of doctors. In some schools many subjects are not being taught because there are no teachers. One problem which has afflicted the indigenous northerners is drunkenness. There are dozens more problems I could mention, but the discussion at the chamber session was not just about the problems but primarily about what needs to be done to ensure a normal life.

Of course the prime need is for capital investments. As Deputy Finance Minister S. Gorbachev said, the necessary measures are now being taken and the requisite resources will be allocated. Representatives of the State Committee for Federation and Nationalities Affairs and the State Committee for the Social and Economic Development of the North informed the legislators about the

work of their departments. The Soviet of Nationalities adopted an appropriate decree based on the results of the discussion.

It's tough in the north. But it is no easier in southern Russia. Especially in the Ingush Republic, where the socioeconomic situation was also examined at yesterday's chamber session. The republic's already weak economy is in a state of profound crisis. Suffice it to say that the slump in production last year was 61 percent. An exceptionally difficult situation has developed in agriculture. At present over 80,000 of the republic's 300,000-plus inhabitants are unemployed.

In its decree the Soviet of Nationalities proposed the adoption of a series of urgent measures to normalize the socioeconomic situation in the republic and increase monitoring of the fulfillment of the Russian President's edict and the Supreme Soviet and government decrees.

Regional Affairs

New Governor Appointed in North Caucasus

MK0107094093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 4

[Oleg Medvedev report: "New Governor in North Caucasus. Former Najibollah Adviser Appointed Russian Deputy Prime Minister"]

[Text] The Council of Ministers decree "On Measures To Ensure a Comprehensive Solution to the Problem of Refugees and Persons Forced To Resettle in the Area of the Ossetian-Ingush Conflict" was sent yesterday for official distribution. Under the decree (KOMMERSANT-DAILY reported it on 30 June), Viktor Polyanichko was appointed new chief of the Provisional Administration in the area of the state of emergency in a number of rayons of North Ossetia and Ingushetia with a rank of Russian deputy prime minister.

The reshuffle in the Provisional Administration proves that the Russian leadership is seriously preoccupied with the situation in the area of the Ossetian-Ingush conflict. On 18 June, the Russian State Committee for the Affairs of the Federation and Nationalities issued a statement accusing North Ossetia and Ingushetia of taking an uncompromising stance regarding each other. On 23 June, Akhsarbek Galazov, chairman of the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet, and Ingush President Ruslan Aushev were invited to Moscow, where they had an uneasy conversation with Viktor Chernomyrdin and the "troika" of the federal "power" ministers. As a result, all the participants in the meeting agreed that it was essential to solve urgently the most acute problem—that of the refugees. The Russian prime minister promised to sign the requisite decree and to strengthen the Provisional Administration. Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray said last weekend that it would be headed by an experienced chief.

It was Viktor Polyanichko who turned out to be the experienced chief. He indeed has the appropriate experience. In the mid-80's Mr. Polyanichko was adviser to Afghan President Najibullah, and in 1988-1991 he was second secretary of the Azerbaijani Communist Party's Central Committee—and, as an Azerbaijani diplomat put it, "nearly ruled the country." Polyanichko was also chairman of the Committee on the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast—in fact, Azerbaijan's governor in Nagorno-Karabakh. According to the above-mentioned diplomat, the Armenians made several attempts on Polyanichko's life because, as they saw it, he was holding a pro-Azerbaijani stance. He is a peculiar sort of specialist and is on good terms with Gromov and Rutskoy. As for his views, he is at least a conservative, if not a reactionary. His activity in Karabakh, however, was not considered a success by anyone.

Appointing Polyanichko yet another "governor" in Nagorno-Karabakh, the federal authorities evidently had in mind his experience of working in extreme conditions. The new chief was given the status of deputy prime minister. This does not mean, however, that he will be a member of the government. The idea is that now the chief of the administration will, among other things, have the right and possibility to contact the "power" ministers directly in order to solve urgent problems in a more expeditious fashion. One should not, however, pin too great hopes on the high status of the administration chief. Viktor Polyanichko is the fifth man to hold this post and his four predecessors include two deputy prime ministers—Georgiy Khizha and Sergey Shakhray. The reason for a lack of progress is apparently not the mistakes made by the governors but the intransigence of the parties conflicting over Prigorodnyy Rayon.

Ingush President Ruslan Aushev, when asked by Ekho Moskvy radio to comment on the new appointment, said: "I know Polyanichko from Afghanistan and Azerbaijan. The only thing I can say: Let us see how he performs his duties."

Chechnya's Dudayev Consolidates Control

MK0107132093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 3

[Timur Muzayev report: "General Dudayev's Regime Bolstered. Opposition Leaders Think This Will Not Last Long"]

[Text] Former First Deputy Prime Minister Yaragi Mamadayev, appointed head of the "national accord government" by the Chechen Republic parliament, addressed the people of the Chechen Republic on 29 June. In his address, Mamadayev denounced the presidential dictatorship, which, he said, was established in Chechnya, and called on the population to oppose the regime of General Dudayev. In the "shadow prime minister's" view, the government formed by Dudayev and his loyalists after the abolition of the parliament, the Constitutional Court, and the Groznyy city assembly

does not have the actual resources to stabilize the situation in Chechnya and is leading the republic toward complete ruin.

Meanwhile, judging by reports from Groznyy, the president has managed to strengthen his hand after the 4 June events. The capital and most rayons of Chechnya are under his control. Local observers point out that the new government is dominated by hard-liners headed by "acting vice president" Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, who is also chairman of the State Committee for the Investigation of State Crimes, and Sultan Geliskhanov, chief of the Department for the Protection of Public Order, who is effectively acting internal affairs minister of the Chechen Republic. While Geliskhanov is trying to deal the final blow to the opposition in the republic's plains, Yandarbiyev has spearheaded a campaign in Groznyy to dismiss chiefs of enterprises and organizations who—to various extent—supported the actions of the opposition in April-June of this year. Saypuddi Khasanov, chief of the Criminal Police Department, was fired recently at Yandarbiyev's request for releasing a group of municipal police officers seized by Dudayev's loyalists on 4 June, when the Groznyy city assembly was stormed.

Under pressure from Yandarbiyev, Elza Sheripova, general prosecutor of the Chechen Republic, started signing warrants for the arrest of opposition activists, something she had hitherto refused to do. According to reports from sources close to the Chechen opposition, the regime's secret services have already arrested a number of participants in the opposition rally on Teatralnaya Square.

Having strengthened its positions, the Dudayev government is trying to resolve the republic's acute social and economic problems. Its economic program published in the republican press calls for the reestablishment of strict administrative control over production and the introduction of a paramilitary system to supervise Chechen industry. Speaking at a meeting with directors of oil sector enterprises on 28 June, the president warned that the managers would be dismissed for failure to comply with state orders. Reports on the situation in various sectors of the economy are to be presented to the government within a week. Economic experts in the republic believe, however, that General Dudayev's military and administrative measures are unlikely to revive the badly damaged and plundered Chechen economy.

Local observers emphasize that despite a certain stabilization of the regime, the opposition should not be dismissed completely. After the 4 June events the opposition movements were in disarray, but recently Dudayev's opponents have shown renewed activism in a number of the republic's rayons. The opposition leaders are certain that the current government is incapable of heading the Chechen state in a normal fashion and expect new political upheavals soon.

Speaker Cited on Parliament, Dudayev

MK3006120093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Jun 93 p 3

[Igor Terekhov report: "'I Stand in the Way of Everyone Equally.' Parliament Chairman Yusup Soslambekov Comments on Situation in Chechnya"]

[Text] Yusup Soslambekov, a leader of the Caucasus People's Confederation and chairman of the Chechen Republic parliament, dissolved by Dudayev, gave a press conference 28 June in Nalchik under the aegis of his organization. When asked by journalists as to how legal is his current status in Chechnya, Soslambekov said that he remains chairman of the republic's parliament. He dismissed reports carried by the mass media about an alleged attempt on his life. "My life is in no danger," he said. As for the legal status of the Chechen Republic parliament, the speaker believes that the parliament is in recess until the situation in the republic is stable again.

Soslambekov laid the blame for the 4 June events in Groznyy on President Dudayev, pointing out that arms were used not against the opposition, but against the municipal police, which resulted in the spilling of blood of those who fulfilled their constitutional duty. A legal chaos, a lack of clear-cut domestic and foreign policies, political demagoguery raised to the rank of a state policy—these are what Soslambekov termed as qualities characteristic of the Dudayev regime since its inception. He was as unflattering, however, in his assessment of the opposition, the bulk of which, he said, consists of revenge seekers who strive to restore old privileges. Soslambekov categorically denied reports about his involvement in the events that are currently under way in Nadterechnyy Rayon, where forces in opposition to Dudayev have concentrated. "In the current situation I see no place for me both in the opposition camp and in the Dudayev camp. I equally stand in the way of Dudayev, Yandarbiyev, Khadzhiyev, and Bugayev," the parliament speaker said. He explained that the reason for this was that he has always been a supporter and advocate of the Chechen people's sovereignty, the Chechen Republic Constitution, and struggled to make sure that provisions of the Constitution are adhered to by all the republic's citizens—from the president to the last farm hand. "Had I employed Dudayev's methods, I would have easily gotten rid of him," Soslambekov noted, but the desire to be of help to his people is inconsistent with bloodshed, he believes.

When asked by your NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent about relations between Chechnya and Russia, Soslambekov said that Dudayev was a protege of the Russian military-industrial sector, and both the president himself and his team were following instructions from Moscow. One proof of this was, according to Soslambekov, the participation of the general-cum-president, jointly with officials from the Russian Defense Ministry, in the air exhibition in Le Bourget (France). The speaker, who fell from grace with

Dudayev, noted that at present the Russian Federation leadership was playing a political game resulting in independent Chechnya's recognition of the new Russian Constitution as one of the Federation components. According to his forecast, by next fall, when the Russian Federation Constitution is scheduled to be adopted, Dzhokhar Dudayev will have completed "the defeat of the Chechen people" and made sure that they are back within the Russian Federation. "We have to acknowledge that it was the Chechen people who were losers in the arduous political struggle. We were unprepared for the struggle we began in August 1991. At present, the idea of national independence has been discredited; people now are unable to choose the right direction," the Chechen Republic parliament chairman stated. He, for his part, is intent on defending the republic's independency by all conceivable, albeit civilized means.

Tatarstan Officials Explain Conference Walkout

PM0107142393 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jun 93 p 1

[Viktor Shirokov report: "Tatarstan: 'We Wanted To Be Heard....' That Did Not Happen. So They Walked Out of the Constitutional Conference"]

[Text] During Saturday's press conference, Tatarstan Vice President Vasiliy Likhachev and President M. Shaymiyev's adviser Rafail Khakimov explained the republic's official position to journalists—the position that they had stated at the Constitutional Conference.

Briefly this is the crux of their position. The Russian Federation Constitution should not fail to live up to the democratic demands and claims stated by B. Yeltsin when he took office as president of the Russian Federation. The text of the draft is extremely compromising today. There are many contradictions, gaps, and omissions in it. Thus, the idea of the peoples' right to self-determination and equality is insufficiently developed.

The draft fails to settle a number of important problems. These relate to the de jure or de facto equality of republics and state-territorial formations—the krays and oblasts. It is not clear how the optimum demarcation of authority between the federal assembly, the government, and the president will take place. What is more, it is not comprehensible how much of the Federation Treaty will be incorporated in the fundamental law.

Tatarstan—with journalists' help—has created for itself the image of a republic that is blowing apart and destroying the Federation, a republic that does not want to go along with the crowd. But if Tatarstan is a state—and that is recognized in the current Russian Federation Constitution—then it too, like other republics, must act in accordance with its state-legal status.

It is of fundamental importance for the republic that the Russian Federation leadership regard it as an equal partner. The stance espoused by certain members of the working group that made the sections' proposals into a unified draft, who radically opposed the idea of Russia as a multiethnic state, came as a cold shower to me, V. Likhachev said. This factor does not destroy Russia, and if its leaders want to be wise politicians they should not avoid but take charge of ethnic problems.

There must be no rush in preparing the draft Constitution. It is necessary to look to the future—to what lies in store for Russia tomorrow, in the 21st century—and not draft a document that meets the need of the current "transitional period." So as to ensure that we are not ashamed of our fundamental law in the face of future generations.

S. Shakhray skipped in masterly fashion over the amendments submitted on behalf of the Tatarstan Supreme Soviet. That was one more reason why the republic's representatives walked out of the Constitutional Conference. The problems that were concealed so adroitly will nonetheless "turn up" in practical policy in the near future. It is noteworthy that the republics' amendments, which components of the Federation made in their section, were not included in the working group's draft even though they alone can pass judgment on the structure of the voluntary union of Russia's peoples.

Disregarding Tatarstan's position forces it out of the constitutional process, but the walkout by the republic's representatives from the Constitutional Conference could generate a "chain reaction" whereby other components of the Federation also repudiate the conference...

Unpaid Tyumen Oil Workers Appeal to Yeltsin

PM0107135393 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Jun 93 First Edition pp 1,5

[Letter from Tyumen oilmen followed by commentary by Vladimir Yefimov: "Oilmen Threaten To Shut Down Wells"]

[Text] Tyumen Oblast—Esteemed Boris Nikolayevich!

We do not believe that what is happening in the oil sector is due to chance or to individuals' neglect. Despite the major shortage of petroleum products in the country, no one is buying them from the oil refineries. They, in turn, are refusing take our oil and we are forced to shut down wells since the relevant government department does not allow us to ship it to the CIS countries and beyond.

What makes us angry is the demagogic vilification of oilmen as being chiefly responsible for the galloping inflation, even though in the last three months the price of a tonne of oil, in accordance with your edict, has not been raised by a single ruble. Yet everyone who supplies us with essential equipment and resources for production has increased their cost by at least 50-100 percent.

We ended last year with customers owing us 50 billion rubles [R] for oil. In the first five months of this year not

only has the debt not been repaid, but it has increased by 150 percent and now exceeds R125 billion.

In the past two months it has become difficult even to pay wages, and the trouble is that, as you know, the leave season is upon us in the north, and a lot of people have to be given large amounts of money urgently. There is mounting social tension among collectives, dissatisfaction, and a desire to take the most extreme steps in protest.

We do not know who informs you about the state of affairs in the provinces and how, but we want you to hear what we have to say—our opinion on this subject. You have been here and seen how we work, what conditions we work in. We have listened to you, we have taken on board your appeals for people to understand that this is a difficult period. But what we are asking you to do today is to appreciate our problems because they are already so great that they objectively jeopardize the viability of the country as a whole. If we stop tomorrow (and not even of our own volition), everything in the country will seize up. If the government appreciates this, then immediate measures must be adopted to eliminate above all the excessive amount owed to us by customers.

Adopted at an enlarged session of the "Yuganskneftegaz" association leaders' council with the chiefs of city and rayon administrations in attendance, Nefteyugansk.

Own correspondent's commentary

I suppose that the situation in the fuel and energy complex, with plants consuming hydrocarbon raw materials owing Russian oil sector enterprises in excess of R1 trillion, can hardly be said to be under the government's control. The numerous telegrams it is receiving are already causing irritation on Staraya Ploshchad: "Guys, the country is falling apart and you keep bringing your problems here..." Oil supplies are continuing but is not so much work any longer, as a 'hobby' for the oilmen themselves. Because it is unpaid. Most working people at oil and gas extraction enterprises have not yet been paid for May, and some have not even been paid for April. It is a paradoxical fact that in order to survive the oilmen have been forced to cut expenditure on developing fields and constructing surface facilities, and the volumes of hydrocarbon raw material production are falling accordingly.

Vladimir Medvedev, president of the Oil Industry Workers' Union, believes that nonpayments are a hidden way of subsidizing commercial structures in other sectors and reflect the interests of the overtly criminal classes. "It is no secret," Anatoliy Sibirev, chairman of the "Yuganskneftegaz" strike committee, said, "that the money that has not been received in time by those to whom it is due is working for someone else, creating and augmenting capital." In this situation the oilmen have to play Sherlock Holmes, in order to establish where the black gold is disappearing to. Investigations show that around one-third of the petroleum products not paid for by the refineries has been shipped to the Army and to agriculture. Where the remaining thousands of tonnes have disappeared to is, alas, a mystery—which again is prompting the most inconsistent dictums about a flourishing "oil mafia" in the state.

At a recent conference in Tyumen, Russian Government Vice Premier Sergey Shakhray announced his intention to bring up the issue of the oil and gas complex at a Security Council session. Clearly, the sector can only be stabilized if money is targeted on the fuel and energy complex, otherwise the energy crisis predicted for 1995 is bound to come next year, according to Russian Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Shafranik.

Moscow City Court To Examine Miner's Complaints

PM0207085993 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Miners Want Precedent"]

[Text] After the Proletarskiy Rayon People's Court, Moscow, refused to examine a submission for administrative proceedings to be brought against a number of Russian Federation ministers, justifying its decision by saying that it was a case for the Court of Arbitration, the Russian Independent Miners Union [RIMU] asked the Moscow City Court to appeal against this decision and initiate legal proceedings.

The submission points out that officials had failed to fulfill their commitments under the sectoral wage rate agreement of 1993: For instance, instead of 428 billion rubles [R] in subsidies in April-May the sector was only allocated R127 billion.

"Holdups with wages are causing social tension," we were told by Ivan Mokhnachuk, deputy chairman of the Russian trade union, at the Moscow City Court, "and we are demanding that Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Council of Ministers, remove the factors and conditions obstructing implementation of the wage agreement."

As you know, it was stated during a recent meeting between the miners and the prime minister that by 1 July the government would have allocated the R205-billion shortfall and prepared a mechanism to implement the president's edict "On Measures To Stabilize the Situation in the Coal Industry." After this miners' pickets left the government building. But, as we can see, the RIMU wants to set a precedent and punish ministers for failing to perform their official functions. It is not clear at the moment what will come of this. It became known when the issue was being signed to press that the Moscow City Court has revoked the Proletarskiy Rayon Court's decision and pledged to examine the complaint.

Diesel Fuel Shortage Hits Sakhalin Industry

PM0207113993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jul 93 First Edition p 4

[Boris Reznik report: "Fuel on Sakhalin and Kurils Being Shared Out Piecemeal"]

[Text] Sakhalin Oblast—For some months now the population of the Kuril Islands has been experiencing a very severe energy crisis connected with the lack of diesel fuel.

Last spring, when its stocks had been completely exhausted, the local authorities were forced even to declare a state of emergency on the islands and to turn to Japan for help. Now Sakhalin seems to have ended up in a similar situation. Fuel tanks are empty today in a number of its rayons. Coal and timber industry enterprises in Uglegorskiy Rayon have stopped work for this reason. Work at the major "Solntsevskiy" open-cut coal mine, which supplied many enterprises in the region with solid fuel, has totally ceased. Things are no better in the south of the island, including Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, the oblast center. Almost everywhere, power stations are working with interruptions, and many bus routes have been canceled. Agricultural equipment is laid up in villages.

The islanders have shared out literally piecemeal 800 tonnes of diesel fuel delivered to Sakhalin recently from Nakhodka. Of course, it has been impossible to meet all the needs. The problem is worsening daily. These are the consequences of the tough policy of the Central Bank of Russia with regard to the allocation of credit resources. What must be the way out of the situation? As yet there is no answer to this question.

Irkutsk Oblast, Krasnoyarsk Kray Consider Forming Republic

MK0107133693 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 4

[Ivan Sidorov report: "Siberian Regions Unite. Irkutsk and Krasnoyarsk Equate Themselves With Republics"]

[Text] While argument continues in the Kremlin on what sort of relations between the center and components of the federation should be enshrined in a new constitution, those across the Urals have no intention to surrender to the will of the Constitutional Conference. KOMMERSANT-DAILY has learned that a session of the inner oblast soviet held in Irkutsk yesterday discussed the possibility of creating an East Siberian republic as part of the federation.

Discussions on setting up regional unions have been going on in Russia for a long time, but they flared up with renewed vigor when it became clear that a new constitution would soon be adopted in Moscow. It may formalize the present inequality of components of the federation in their relations with the center: 20 Russian republics insist on keeping the status quo. Nearly 60 krays and oblasts want all components of the federation to be equal in the eyes of Moscow.

Without waiting for the Constitutional Conference to decide on this matter, the Irkutsk authorities have come forward with an initiative to bring together the oblast and Krasnoyarsk Kray to form an East Siberian republic. By yesterday evening, the results of the inner soviet's session was not known, because of the faulty connection. But KOMMERSANT-DAILY learned that Vyacheslav Novikov, head of the kray soviet, thinks it realistic to create the first sovereign Russian republic on the territory of Russia, and supposes that should such a proposal come from Irkutsk, it may meet with support in Krasnoyarsk. Should the constitution preserve the regions' inequality in their relations with the center, an East Siberian republic, like the other sovereign republics, would be entitled not only to its own constitution, flag, coat of arms, and anthem, but would also have substantial advantages compared to krays and oblasts.

International Affairs

Zlenko Links START, U.S. Attack on Baghdad

PM0107182593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Jul 93 First Edition p 3

[Vladimir Avdeyenko report: "Anatoliy Zlenko: U.S. Strike Against Baghdad Will Complicate Ratification of START I by Ukraine"]

[Text] Kiev—At a 30 June meeting with Roman Popadiuk, U.S. ambassador to Kiev, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko stated: Deputies of the republic's Supreme Soviet are concerned by the fact that the United States is pursuing a foreign policy from a position of strength without verifying its actions against international law or coordinating them with the UN Security Council.

The day before, Ukrainian deputies expressed alarm on this question in their speeches: "Where is the confidence that even if Ukraine is given the security guarantees that it demands, America will not forget them after the withdrawal of the last nuclear missile from the country's territory?" In view of the reaction in parliament, Zlenko stated: "Ukraine's policy, which is aimed at achieving nonnuclear status, will meet with serious resistance from the deputies after these events. The process of ratifying START I will be considerably complicated now."

It has emerged from informed sources in the Ukrainian capital that an attempt on the life of former U.S. President Richard Nixon had been planned during a visit to Kiev in the early eighties. The question being asked semi-jokingly, semi-seriously in Ukraine now is: Suppose the United States wants to take revenge on all countries where failed attempts on the lives of former presidents were planned?

Setting out his attitude on the missile attack on Baghdad, Anatoliy Zlenko said in the Supreme Soviet that a political and legal analysis of the U.S. actions conduncted by Ukrainian Foreign Ministry specialists shows that the bombing of the Iraqi capital exceeds the limits of necessary sufficiency. In accordance with the norms of international law the U.S. measures against Iraq raise very many questions, Zlenko said.

The minister also stated that Ukraine has come to the conclusion that the United States acted not in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter but against it. This precedent, he said, could be used by other countries trying to play the role of policeman in various parts of the world to justify actions contrary to the norms of civilized coexistence among states.

Creation of Naval Forces To Begin; Yeltsin Comments

LD0207095293 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] Without waiting for the division of the Black Sea Fleet, Ukraine is creating its own naval forces. RIA reports that the (Hetman Sahaydachnyy) escort vessel will be their first vessel and flagship for a time. This 4 July, the state flag of Ukraine will be raised on it in Kerch.

On 1 July, Russian President Boris Yeltsin denounced the attempts to exacerbate the situation in the Black Sea Fleet. He expressed certainty that Black Sea sailors will loyally uphold the orders of the Navy commander, who is directly subordinated to the presidents of Russia and the Ukraine.

Equipment Arrives in Sevastopol

LD3006221793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1607 GMT 30 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Aleksandr Kharchenko]

[Text] Sevastopol, 30 Jun—Two trains with armored equipment for the Ukrainian Navy arrived late last night and early this morning in Sevastopol. A third train is expected. An ITAR-TASS correspondent was told this by competent sources. Figures were mentioned as well: 62 APCs, two reconnaissance patrol vehicles, dozens of flame-throwers and other weaponry used for conducting military operations in urban conditions. It is also of significance that the personnel of the Ukrainian Navy's infantry are at present being replaced and added to by servicemen from western areas of the republic.

At the same time, the ITAR-TASS correspondent contacted the Ukrainian Navy's press center by phone and was told that only two APCs had arrived and that this was a normal redeployment with no significance. It seems that dangerous games are beginning. It is worth listening carefully to what the representative of the Ukrainian president in Sevastopol, Ivan Yermakov, has to say.

According to a report today on the Sevastopol private radio station "Omega-Polis," Yermakov said at a session of Crimea's Supreme Soviet that "if there is no Karabakh or Dniester region in the Crimea or Sevastopol just now, then it is only thanks to the discipline and restraint of the officers of the Black Sea Fleet."

Slovak President Discusses Ethnic, Security Issues

AU0107125693 Prague CTK in English 2215 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Kiev, June 29 (CTK)—Slovak President Michal Kovac, currently visiting Ukraine, called today on Ukraine to participate in international talks on the problems of Hungarian ethnic minorities.

It would be useful for all the countries inhabited by Hungarian minorities to discuss the ethnic Hungarians' rights, Kovac stressed.

The Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk told journalists that he respected Kovac's proposal, but he could discuss it only in the presence of Hungarian representatives. We cannot make a decision together with the Slovak president, which concerns a third country. We can only express our wish, Kravchuk said.

At their meeting, Kovac and representatives of the Ukrainian Parliament, including its chairman Ivan Plyushch, took up the question of ethnic Ruthenians. Chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament's Foreign Committee Dmytro Pavlychko pointed to the recent Bratislava conference of what he called the shadow cabinet of Subcarpathian Ruthenians, where separation of the Transcarpathian region was openly suggested. Slovakia should not tolerate similar events, Pavlychko said.

Kovac said that certain forces in Slovakia were challenging Slovakia's present border.

Although mistakes were sometimes made, neither the Slovak president, nor the parliament and the government felt themselves to be guilty of violation of ethnic minority rights. However, Hungary sometimes believes the representatives of ethnic Hungarians living in Slovakia, more than Slovakia's official representatives, Kovac stated.

He said that Ukraine was Slovakia's biggest, strongest and most prospective neighbor.

Kovac also met with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko, who informed him of Ukrainian proposals to create a security zone in Eastern and Central Europe.

Kovac told CTK that the countries of the Central and Eastern Europe now considered it necessary that their national interests be protected. Every initiative following this aim, which would culminate in pan-European security, deserves comprehensive examination, Kovac stressed.

Zlenko said that the suggested security structure would be completely open and even the Russian membership was not ruled out, though it had not been counted on originally. Ukraine believes that the proposal could also be joined by Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Moldova and Belarus, Zlenko said.

On Wednesday, Kovac will meet with Ukrainian Premier Leonid Kuchma.

[Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak on 30 June on pages 1 and 4 carries a 600-word Julius Gembicky, TA SR report on President Kovac's visit to Ukraine, which includes the following passage on his meeting with President Kravchuk: "Referring to the problem of Ruthenians, Michal Kovac said that Slovakia respected the existence of this ethnic minority in our conditions but did not attribute any political dimensions to it. He said that no political force existed that would call in question Slovakia's eastern border. He said that Ukraine was our big and economically potentially very rich neighbor, which would undoubtedly in the future play an important role in European and world politics. Leonid Kravchuk said that he did not see any obstacles to the development of bilateral relations, the efficient materialization of which might benefit from an impetus from the two presidents. Speaking about the Ruthenians, he said that only a very small number of people in Transcarpathian Ukraine had officially declared their belonging to this nationality and that many do not see any big difference between Ruthenians and Ukrainians. He voiced the view that, once the economic problems in the two countries are eliminated, also some of the problematic aspects of the Ruthenians would be reduced [sentence as published]. In this context he said that it was important to concentrate on cultural issues and not to politicize the problems, which might jeopardize the integrity of the Ukrainian state."]

Treaty Calls For Security Cooperation

AU0107125793 Prague CTK in English 2055 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Kiev, June 29 (CTK)—Ukrainian and Slovak Presidents Leonid Kravchuk and Michal Kovac today signed an agreement on good neighborly relations, friendship and cooperation between their countries.

The document includes a project for the two countries' close cooperation and the coordination of their international activities, including building of a new security system in Europe. The agreement is not conceived of as an alliance, as it does not include commitment to mutual aid in the event of an armed attack.

The two countries declare in the document that they neither raise any territorial claims toward each other, nor will they raise them in the future.

In the event of one of the countries being subject to an armed attack, the partner would not support the aggressor and would strive to solve the conflict in line with the U.N. Charter's principles.

The agreement provides for a Czech-Ukrainian summit at least once a year, as well as for regular consultations of the two countries' foreign ministers.

Regarding ethnic minority rights, the two partners commit themselves to following international documents, including those approved by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

The agreement has been concluded for a period of ten years. It will be regularly renewed unless it is abrogated by one of the partners.

Kravchuk told CTK that in signing the agreement, the two young, newly independent states were entering a new era in their relations. The document would support good neighborly relations and help solve complicated internal problems in the two countries, as well as their engagement in European affairs, Kravchuk said.

Kovac said the signing of the agreement was a historical event. It is an agreement of two free, democratic, independent countries, which freely and voluntarily committed themselves to live as good neighbors and friends, he added.

Defense Ministry Expands Relations With Europe

LD0107155693 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 2100 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] The Ukrainian Defense Ministry has been actively expanding its international connections of late, in a bid to facilitate Ukraine's integration into the European and world community.

The ministry has cooperation agreements signed with defense departments of Belarus, Bulgaria, Moldova, Slovenia, Hungary, and Czechia. While belonging to none of the military blocs, Ukraine participates in the NATO Council for Cooperation. During late May and early June alone, the country was visited by military delegations from the UK, the USA, and France. The visits were very helpful in providing some guidelines for bilateral military cooperation between Ukraine and the above countries.

Western Companies To Build Servicemens' Homes

LD3006125993 Kiev UKRINFORM in Russian 1843 GMT 29 Jun 93

[By unidentified UKRINFORM correspondent]

[Excerpts] Kiev, 29 June—Five Western companies have taken part in a competition whose winner will get the right to build a servicemen's settlement in the Zaliznychnyy district of Ukraine's capital. [passage omitted]

It is necessary for Ukraine to build as many flats as possible for servicemen withdrawn from German territory with the money assigned by Germany. Thousands of commissioned and non-commissioned officers in the Ukrainian army today are homeless. [passage omitted]

The settlement for servicemen is scheduled to be built in a record time for Ukraine—by September next year. It will consist of 10-16-story buildings, a trade and services complex, two kindergartens and a school. It is planned to build underground garages, a trolleybus track, and to conduct extensive work on the development of amenities. Ukrainian builders will work on the construction of the settlement alongside Western specialists.

Deputy Prime Minister Signs Credit Agreement With Italy

LD3006113593 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 2100 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] On 29 June Italy's ambassador to Ukraine, Vittorio Surdo, and Ukraine's Vice Premier Valentyn Landyk signed an agreement in Kiev opening Italy's credit line to Ukraine to the tune of 160 billion liras, or 100 million U.S. dollars. The credit will go to pay for Italian firms' products to be supplied to Ukraine and will have a tentative term of two to four years. Speaking on the mechanism to make the credit line operational, Vittorio Surdo said it would be shaped by the bank entrusted with financing by Italian firms, while the Ukrainian side would decide on the projects to be financed.

In his turn Valentyn Landyk stressed that Ukraine needed primarily advanced technologies, know-how, and equipment to overcome its current economic crisis.

State Committee Begins Replotting Border With Belarus

LD0107084693 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] In accordance with intergovernmental agreements on cooperation in border and customs questions between Ukraine and Belarus, Ukraine's State Committee for Land Resources has begun drafting technical documentation for plotting the boundaries of land utilization and land holdings for population points in the jurisdiction of local councils bordering on Belarus. The total length of the state border between the two countries is over 1,000 km. Land surveyors will have to study plans and registration documents, to enter boundaries on maps, and to agree the precise line the state border takes through local terrain. This process will have to be carried out in a number of stages. Both sides have agreed that, pending ratification by both parliaments of documents dealing with these matters, they will not take any action along the border without agreeing on it with each other.

Similar work is expected to begin soon on Ukraine's borders with Russia and Moldova.

National Affairs

Nuclear Society Registered at Justice Ministry

LD0107163793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1439 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Efim Shvartsman]

[Text] Odessa July 1 TASS—Ukranian nuclear society has been registered in the republican Ministry of Justice. Among the founders of this independent public organization are five Ukranian nuclear power plants, some other enterprises of nuclear power complex, research institutes. The activities of the new society will be aimed at safeguarding nuclear and radiation security, coordinating work of Ukrainian nuclear power stations and uranium mines.

Viktor Sapronov, director general of the Khmelnitskyy nuclear power plant, has been elected president of the society, whose its headquarters will operate in the city of

Odessa on the Black Sea coast. Its local university is the only establishment in the republic training specialists in atomic power-engineering.

Disclosure of Classified Data Viewed

LD0107161293 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 2100 GMT 30 Jun 93

[Text] The Ukrainian State Committee for Protection of State Secrets unveiled some results of its activities: In May alone its staffers looked through thousands upon thousands of printed matter and [words indistinct] other mass communication media, having precluded 43 cases of classified data divulgence.

The committee expressed its concern over a trend to name military units, garrisons, and facilities by their classified names with their exact location, give exact figures of their strength and military equipment, all of which have been traditionally considered to be military secrets ever since the totalitarian regime was established in the former USSR.

Belarus

Parliament Passes Vote of No Confidence in Shushkevich

LD0107162293 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1551 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Summary] Today, the Belarusian parliament voted on the issue of confidence in Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich by secret ballot. Two hundred and one deputies took part in the vote. The results of the vote broke down as follows: 27 deputies voted confidence, 166 voted no confidence. When the protocol of the vote had to be confirmed by the deputies, there was no quorum, and a break was announced.

Counting Committee Issues Results

LD0107173893 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1551 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Protocol of Counting Commission on results of vote of no confidence in Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich read by Mikhail Dzmitryevich Udovikaw, chairman of the Counting Commission, at the 12th Supreme Soviet session in Minsk—live]

[Excerpt] [Udovikaw] Protocol Number 3: Certificate of the Counting Commission on the results of the secret ballot on the issue of confidence in Stanislav Stanislavavich Shushkevich, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus, of 1 July 1993. Mikhail Dzmitryevich Udovikaw, chairman of the Counting Commission; Nikalay Nikalayevich Garelik, secretary of the Counting Commission; and Viktar Iosifavich Ganchar, Igar Ivanavich Germenchuk, Alyaksandr Yawfeyevich Kuzmyankow, Alyaksandr Nikalayevich Kulichkow, and Alyaksandr Alyaksandravich Shut, members of the Counting Commission, were present. The agenda was the results of the secret ballot on the issue of confidence in Stanislav Stanislavavich Shushkevich, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus.

The Counting Commission has counted the votes in the secret ballot on confidence in Stanislav Stanislavavich Shushkevich, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus. Handed to the people's deputies for voting were 204 ballot papers. When the boxes were opened there were 201 ballot papers. Eight ballot papers are not valid. The submitted votes broke down in the following way: 27 votes were submitted in favor of confidence in Stanislaw Stanislaw Shushkevich, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus; 166 people's deputies expressed no confidence. Udovikaw, chairman of the commission signed; Garelik, secretary of the commission, signed; members of the commission, with Ganchar expressing reservation, signed. The procedure was broken and Protocols 1 and 2 were not confirmed. Kuzmyankow signed and Kulichkow signed. During the vote the procedure was broken as the Supreme Soviet did not confirm Protocols 1 and 2 of the Counting Commission, therefore Germenchuk said he refuses to sign this protocol, so he has not signed. Alyaksandr Alayksandravich Shut, member of the commission, supports the reservation of Ganchar.

Apart from that, two statements came to the chairman of the Counting Commission from Igar Yevgenyevich Nekrasaw and Alyaksey Nikalayevich Stepanenka, people's deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus. The two deputies by mistake wrongly crossed out ... therefore both of them ask the commission to bear it in mind that they meant no confidence in the chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus when the results of the vote are confirmed. We are reading out this statement upon their consent. "The commission has not taken into consideration our results therefore the people's deputies will be able to decide this issue as they believe appropriate." This is all from me.

[Chairman of session] Thank you. Esteemed people's deputies, before confirming Protoco' 3 of the commission we have to register. I ask you to prepare for the registration. Let the system of registration be switched on. Let the people's deputies register. [deputies register] There is no quorum. A break is announced. We will meet tomorrow at 0930. All the best.

Deputies Discuss Dismissal of Shushkevich

WS0107144193 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1200 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Report by correspondent Mikhail Rudkowskiy from the Supreme Soviet in Minsk]

[Text] Today, at the beginning of the session, Vladimir Dalamay, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, secretary for the CIS affairs, delivered a report on the results of the Moscow meeting of Belarusian and Russian governmental delegations on issues of bilateral cooperation. Then, several deputies took the floor and spoke on pressing issues of our life. However, the question—whether Stanislav Shushkevich remains as Supreme Soviet chairman or resigns—was flying in the air. I want to remind you that the political maneuver of including the issue of Shushkevich's resignation on the agenda was rejected yesterday. The deputies refused to hold a roll-call or secret vote on Shushkevich's resignation. In my opinion, they understand their responsibility before the people. On 1 July, a new attack on Shushkevich was launched. In particular, a discussion on the expediency of Shushkevich's visit to the United States started. In connection with this, I would like to note that our deputies travel all over the world without reporting at all on these business trips while the Supreme Soviet chairman cannot respond to the invitation of the U.S. Government to pay an official visit to the United States. Not to mention the fact that the Unites States did Belarus the honor of inviting Stanislav Shushkevich for an official visit despite the fact that Belarus is a new and almost unknown state for the world community. Nevertheless, our deputies do not take it close to heart. Anyway, this issue was withdrawn from the agenda.

Next, our esteemed people's deputies again returned to the issue of the confidence vote on Stanislav Shushkevich. This was a real political play! Moreover, the legislative majority representing the local administration gains from it, while it usually boycotts the adoption of the pressing laws for the Republic. In an attempt to rehabilitate themselves, they made a scapegoat of the Supreme Soviet chairman. Emotions again prevailed over reason. Dmitry Bulakhov, chairman of the Commission for Legislation, left his deputy's mandate on the rostrum and resigned from his post. The deputies began to shout. People's deputy Vasil Chepik representing the legislative majority took the rostrum and said:

[Begin Chepik recording] Stanislav Stanislavovich, you have insulted an esteemed chairman of our commission. You made him resign. I blame you for doing that. [end recording]

Emotions were flaring. After the break, Supreme Soviet Chairman Shushkevich addressed the deputies:

[Begin Shushkevich recording] In fact, I agreed with the opinion of the Presidium. I apologize before the Supreme Soviet for the fact that during the last two or even three days, I was personally reprimanding some deputies and not dealing with the matter. I am really sorry, I was overwhelmed by emotions. [end recording]

I am now speaking with People's Deputy Anatol Dubowskiy. In your opinion, how will today's session influence the political atmosphere on our society?

[Dubowski] On the one hand, it is natural when a legislative chairman reports on his activities. On the other hand, the procedure ....

[Rudkowskiy, interrupting] Let us suppose that the Supreme Soviet chairman is dismissed.

[Dubowski] We have no time for doing such things. We should deal with economic issues first.

[Rudkowskiy] Do you blame Shushkevich for the miserable state of our economy?

[Dubowski] We should blame all of us. We must look for a way out and not engage in political tricks.

[Rudkowskiy] Do you see an end to these political tricks?

[Dubowski] No.

[Rudkowskiy] I am now speaking with People's Deputy Nikolay Supranewskiy.

[Supranewskiy] The Supreme Soviet chairman was not backed by the Supreme Soviet majority and did not obey the law. I do not trust him.

Reject Proposal To Delay U.S. Visit

WS0107164793

[Editorial Report] Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian at 0700 GMT on 1 July begins a live relay of the 12th Supreme Soviet session in Minsk.

At 0705 GMT, deputies register in the session hall. Some 258 deputies are present. Shushkevich announces that Deputy Safronov is proposed for head of the Commission for Economic Reform. Then, an unidentified deputy endorses Safronov's nomination. At 0706 GMT, deputies vote to appoint Deputy Safronov.

After this, deputies resume discussion of issue No. 38 which had been discontinued on 30 June—the Supreme Soviet chairman's report. At 0710 GMT, an unidentified deputy proposes: "Stanislav Shushkevich should ensure that Russian and Belarusian state delegations meet and work out a long-term economic policy with Russia so that our industrialists and entrepreneurs know everything about, for example, customs, specific cases of their application, monetary policies, and so on. We should conduct the negotiations on the level of state delegations. So, I propose to put to a vote the suggestion that Stanislav Shushkevich be obliged to draft relevant documents on this and report to the deputies."

After that, Shushkevich suggests his wording of the proposal: "The chairmen of the Belarusian Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers are obliged to meet with Russian President Yeltsin in order to discuss economic and political relations of both Republics." The proposal is then adopted.

At 0711 GMT, Shushkevich says he wants to make some remarks before voting on Deputy Trusov's proposal that he postpone his visit to the United States. He says: "While preparing for the visit, along with the Supreme Soviet Presidium, we discussed the delegation's composition and formed a group that works in the Supreme Soviet, its Presidium and the Secretariat, and the Foreign Ministry. And it is our conviction—let me stress it, conviction—that during this visit such issues as the relocation of servicemen and providing them with housing will be specifically resolved. Relevant proposals have been also put forth by the American party; and joint declarations are being put together, and so on and so forth. When such a decision should be made, it will definitely have to be implemented. However, I think that adopting this decision in such a categorical form will not serve as the best example of our activities—the activities of the Supreme Soviet. Otherwise, we will complicate relations with the respected state. I would like you to adopt a reasonable attitude. I am asking you, Mr. Trusov, to take the floor and explain your proposal."

Deputy Trusov says: "This is not just a simple proposal. This is a continuation of our discussion on who we orient ourselves toward—the East or the West? I am not going to withdraw my proposal, and believe that you could

conveniently use the situation around the American aggression as an excuse for not going there."

Shushkevich responds: "Thank you. You should not, however, tell me what is and is not acceptable for me. There are certain things complicating all our problems."

At 0718 GMT, an unidentified deputy takes the floor: "This is not a kindergarten and we are not playing a game. This is politics. The United States of America is one of the most important economic partners for us, because we expect from them large investments. Besides, this is a financial center of the world. If someone does not know about this, they had better do some reading on this issue. This is a great power with which Belarus should cooperate. This visit has long been prepared, and postponing it by such an unqualified decision would violate diplomatic procedures. We would be seen as some uncivilized country. As for cooperation with Russia, everyone agrees on this. I am asking you to demonstrate your common sense. "

After this, Deputy Karpenko points out: "The trip of the Supreme Soviet chairman to the United States is a state visit of the Belarusian leader. So we cannot change our decisions just like this. However, I agree with Mr. Trusov that a specific agenda should be determined before the visit, explaining what issues will be addressed there, the protocol, and the delegation's composition. I perceive this visit as one of the most important events for our state. At the same time, I repeatedly brought up the issue that foreign trips of our leaders were a sheer formality. They went there with their wives and children, staying even for two weeks. And then they would go on return visits. All this did not result in a specific solution or protocol. We, in the legislature, have not once been given the chance to check on how those protocols were implemented. This is why I believe that the visit must take place, but we should know its purpose. What kind of explanation, Mr. Shushkevich, is this: We go to the United States in order to build housing for our servicemen returning from Germany?"

Shushkevich replies: "I want to say all these problems are being settled. We have drafts of the agreements and joint declarations."

At 0723 GMT, an unidentified speaker takes the floor: "I believe that the issue that we are now discussing is not relevant. Since the state exists, it should operate. The chairman of the Supreme Soviet has every right to visit any country if there is such a need—particularly, if it is the United States of America. One more thing: Mr. Shushkevich, could you disclose the delegation's composition?" Shushkevich responds: "It has not yet been approved. This is a responsibility of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, which will soon make its decision on this. I can only say that the delegation includes four heads of the legislative commission—in particular, Garkun, Tereshka, Bozhyev, and Gelevich. All the composition problems will be resolved before 7 July. It was agreed with the government to include in the delegation First Deputy Prime Minister M. Myasnikovich. Because of the scheduled meetings with the Belarusian diaspora, we also want to invite several widely-acknowledged Belarusian cultural figures. Everything is handled in the appropriate way."

At 0724 GMT, an unidentified deputy joins the debate: "I have studied international law, and I am now in the Commission for Foreign Affairs. This is not an easy question. But I am concerned about the following: how will you respond—and this question will surely be asked—if asked about the Belarusian stance on the U.S. strike on Iraq? My understanding is that you should adopt the position of the Supreme Soviet."

Declining to respond, Shushkevich says: "You have touched upon one question, and we have many others to solve. However, you will receive the answer."

At 0725, an unidentified deputy says: "Let us be more moderate. The point is that this is not just a visit of our legislative speaker—this is a visit of a leader of our state, who should uphold the interest of this state. This is going to be the biggest and the most important event in the history of our independent state. A political declaration has been prepared. If signed, it will be beneficial for Belarus. We can show it to those who are interested in it. Besides, it is expected that $65-70 million worth of agreements on specific projects will be concluded. At this point, Belarusian and American experts are working on this. In this connection, I think we should not make any hasty decision and cancel the visit. However, I repeat that we will return to the recent events. As for the delegation's composition, the Presidium has not yet determined it, but will soon come to grips with this problem. As far as the foreign minister is concerned, we agreed to include Mr. Belyayev, his deputy, in the delegation."

At 0726, Deputy Trusov continues the debate: "I believe that the question brought up by my namesake is very important. This is why I think that before discussing the upcoming visit of Mr. Shushkevich, we should put on the agenda and discuss the visits to Israel, United Arab Emirates, and Switzerland—so pompously organized recently. As a member of the Commission for Foreign Affairs, I do not recall that our commission was ever informed about the composition of those delegations. We were not even advised as to the funds incurred by those visits. So, let us see what good those trips did for Belarus."

Shushkevich interjects: "Esteemed deputies, we are deviating from the main topic of our debate once again. We have concrete issues to discuss, so please stick to them."

At 0730, Deputy (Novik) takes the floor: "Esteemed deputies, I would like you to calm down—this is the first visit of our young state to the United States of America. One should never ignore the weight and importance of that country. At this point, I can say nothing about the delegation's composition, but know that First Deputy Prime Minister Mikhail Myasnikovich is responsible for

the preparation for this visit as well as the Foreign Ministry, Foreign Economic Relations Committee, and other organizations that participate in drafting the agreements. As for the Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, it has been working on mutual agreements concerning investments. Hopefully, this document will be signed during the visit, opening the way for foreign investments. National Bank Chairman Stanislav Bagdankevich and Defense Minister Pavel Kozlovskiy are also involved in the process of preparation. The relevant documentation will be available by 7 July, and delivered through diplomatic channels to the U.S. State Department."

At 0732 GMT, Deputy Mochulenko continues the debate: "My suggestion is not to vote on Deputy Safronov's proposal. Under the circumstances, the legislature should only work out its position on the U.S. missile strike on Iraq, which Mr. Shushkevich will automatically present during his visit. This is why we should ensure that the commission and the Presidium develop the position on the strike at this session.

At 0736 GMT, Shuskevich puts Deputy Trusov's proposal that Shushkevich postpone his trip to the United States to a vote. The proposal is rejected. The number of "yes" and "no" votes is not announced.

Discuss Introducing Privatization Books

WS0207114793 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1000 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] Despite heated discussions at the Supreme Soviet on 1 July, today's work has begun according to plan. Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich announced a discussion of miscellaneous issues. Nine deputies delivered reports on the most acute issues and problems of life. After registration, the deputies started to discuss clause No. 37. Commission Chairman Leonid Kosik presented a draft law on personalized privatization check books in the Republic of Belarus. Before the step-by-step discussion of the draft law began, the deputies listened to the government representative who explained the position of the government on the issue. He said that the government is not ready to introduce the personalized privatization check books because the state property has not yet been assessed. They proposed to hold this campaign without the personalized privatization check books. Many deputies who took part in the discussion proposed opposite approaches to the matter. Therefore, the step-by-step discussion of the draft law began just 20 minutes before the break. At the proposal of Deputy Safronaw, the voting on the draft law on the personalized privatization check books is being carried out by a roll-call vote.

Deputy on Supreme Soviet Session Results

WS0107120393 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0300 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Report by correspondent Ivan Hradich]

[Text] The 12th regular Belarusian Supreme Soviet session is coming to an end. The course of the session is rather monotonous and does not satisfy the voters. Yesterday's session is a good example of it. The debates were strenuous. However, the session, which was broadcasted by radio and television, left an unpleasant taste in the mouths of our countrymen. The question arises: On what is the deputies' energy wasted? Do the results of the session's work satisfy the legislators themselves? I put this question to people's deputy Gennadiy Karpenko.

[Begin recording] [Karpenko] The means of adopting the issues at the session is not so important, what is really important is the implementation of these decisions. These Supreme Soviet decrees are not implemented in provinces, they are not effective there. The current Supreme Soviet does not supervise the local city or rayon executive councils and does not pursue at all the policy it should have pursued.

[Hradich] What issues are the most essential among the 12th session decisions? Can you think of anything positive?

[Karpenko] The "Law on Land Property" is the most pressing one. The second positive moment is that we started to realize the importance of the introduction of free enterprise. However, the implementation of laws is going on very sluggishly in the Republic. In my opinion, some of the political issues, I mean the treaty on the collective security system, have been made up by the politicians who started to resolve the social-economic issues without any preparation. The collective security treaty was just made up by our politicians.

[Hradich] Can you summarize at least the general results of the session?

[Karpenko] The most vital issue is to hold a referendum. The deputies themselves think that the current legislature should adopt this issue. In my opinion, all [word indistinct] should participate in it. [end recording]

Shushkevich Opposes Joining CIS Security Treaty

LD0107165393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1513 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By BELINFORM correspondent Aleksandr Limanovskiy for TASS]

[Text] Minsk July 1 TASS—Belarusian Parliamentary Speaker Stanislav Shushkevich displayed once again a negative attitude to Belarus joining the Treaty on Collective Security in the CIS framework. Shushkevich expressed his point of view on the matter in a report, read out on his behalf at a scientific conference "National Security of Belarus: the Contemporary Situation and Prospects," which opened in Minsk on Thursday. Shushkevich was not present at the conference.

The report says that Belarus' joining any international military unions can arouse a negative response from the world public and that it restricts Belarusian sovereignty. In his opinion, problems on the national security should be resolved on a bilateral basis with priority given to neighbouring states.

However, far from all speakers who took the floor at the conference shared the speaker's point of view. Nevertheless, the conference, which was attended by top officials of 40 Belarusian ministries and departments and prominent scientists, was held in a calm and businesslike atmosphere.

Confirms Signing Security Treaty

WS0107141893 Minsk RID in Russian 1041 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Report by BELINFORM correspondent Tatyana Shchebet: "Stanislav Shushkevich: 'There Should Not Be Any Doubts: I Have Signed the Collective Security Treaty'"]

[Text] On 30 June, Belarusian Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich confirmed at the Supreme Soviet session that he had signed the collective security treaty.

Stanislav Shushkevich informed the deputies that at the Yerevan session of heads of CIS states on 16 July, he is going to pronounce that Belarus has joined the system of CIS collective security. It is worth noting that the Belarusian Supreme Soviet has not yet discussed the mechanism of the adoption of this treaty.

Shushkevich on 'Normal' Market Relations With Russia

WS0107120793 Minsk BELINFORM in Russian 0930 GMT 1 Jul 93

["Stanislav Shushkevich Believes That Belarus Must Establish Normal Market Relations With Russia—BELINFORM headline]

[Text] It is an ungrateful business to pin hopes on Russia's indulgence for our own docility and the infringement of our state sovereignty. This is what Belarusian Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich stated at today's session.

The head of the Belarusian legislature is convinced that the economic CIS integration is possible only on the basis of market relations. One no longer hopes that it will be possible to pump oil and gas from Russia free of charge. The telegram sent to Belarus by the Russian Central Bank on 1 July about the introduction of new conditions in financing and the financial policy serves as proof of this.

According to the chairman, the country's membership in the collective security system will not supply the Belarusian military industry (this means 70 enterprises and 400,000 employees) with a sufficient number of contracts. The new reality should be taken into account. S. Shushkevich said that Russia does not intend to continue the former practice of large-scale orders to the Belarusian military industry. Russia is creating its own business. Thus, the Belarusian military and political complex can be saved not through new orders, but through its rational conversion and restructuring.

Kravchanka, Danish Foreign Minister Discuss Cooperation

WS3006145993 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1200 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] According to a BELINFORM report which is based on information from the Department for Information within the Belarusian Foreign Ministry, Danish Foreign Minister Niels Helveg Petersen, who is currently heading the EC Cabinet of Ministers, and Belarusian Foreign Minister Petr Kuzmich Kravchanka held consultations in Copenhagen within the framework of European political cooperation. A broad spectrum of issues in the sphere of Belarusian activities within the EC was discussed. Both parties exchanged opinions on the development of the political situation in Belarus and EC assistance to Belarus in the context of a more rapid Belarusian integration into the EC. Negotiations on the development of an agreement on partnership and cooperation between Belarus and the EC were also conducted. Both sides have paid great attention to the discussion of bilateral relations between Belarus and Denmark.

North Atlantic Assembly President Arrives in Minsk

LD2906214993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2030 GMT 29 Jun 93

[By BELINFORM correspondent Valentina Menshikova]

[Text] Minsk, June 30 (TASS)—President of the North Atlantic Assembly Bouvard Loic and the assembly Secretary-General Peter Corterier arrived in Minsk on Tuesday evening on an official visit.

The heads of the assembly will hold a meeting at the Belarussian Defence Ministry on Wednesday morning, followed by talks at the republican parliament commission. Stanislav Shushkevich, head of the parliament, will receive the guests in the evening.

Kazakhstan

Presidential Decree on Privatization Investment Funds

LD3006210593 Almaty KAZTAG in Russian 1100 GMT 30 Jun 93

["Decree by the Kazakh president on measures for the organization of privatization investment funds" issued in Almaty on 23 Jun]

[Text] With the aim of creating the necessary conditions for circulation of privatization investment coupons and for attracting wide sections of the population to participate in a well-organized fashion in the process of mass privatization of state enterprises, I decree:

1. That the instruction on privatization investment funds be confirmed.

2. That the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Kazakhstan confirms in a week's time:

—the instruction on the State Privatization Fund of the Republic of Kazakhstan;

—the instruction on the procedure for licensing the activities of privatization investment funds and those governing these funds and on suspending and revoking licences.

3. That it be established that licensing of the activities of privatization investment funds and those governing them be conducted by an interdepartmental commission formed by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

It is forbidden for privatization investment funds without a licence to conduct any operation involving privatization investment coupons.

The introduction of a single register for privatization investment funds and also the registration of shares issued by these funds on the basis of the prices for the issue offered by them is to be carried out by the State Committee for State Property of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

4. That the specialized State Savings Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan and its branches in the localities can only transfer privatization investment coupons from the accounts of citizens to the accounts of privatization investment funds when the said funds produce licences proving their right to accumulate citizens' privatization investment coupons.

5. That the State Committee for State Property of the Republic of Kazakhstan together with the Finance Ministry of the Republic of Kazakhstan, in accordance with the instruction on privatization investment funds which is confirmed by this decree, should confirm by 30 June 1993:

—the provisional regulations of the privatization investment fund;

—the privatization investment fund's sample prices for a share issue;

—the privatization investment fund's procedure for issuing shares;

—the privatization investment fund's provisional agreement with depositors;

—a sample contract for privatization investment fund managers;

—the temporary instruction on the procedure for evaluating the pure assets of the privatization investment funds, including their procedure for determining their expenses, the compilation of the financial results of the investment funds, and their estimates of privatization investment coupons;

—the temporary instruction on the rules for conducting audits of the privatization investment funds.

6. That the State Committee for State Property of Kazakhstan should over the course of one month:

—confirm a program supporting the establishment and development of privatization investment funds, envisaging measures for the training and instruction of employees, provision of the information they need, and also other measures needed to enable these funds to conduct their business;

—submit proposals to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Kazakhstan on offering tax relief to privatization investment funds that should then be submitted to the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

7. That the Cabinet of Ministers and National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan should make provision for reserves of centralized credit resources to be made available to provide financial aid to the privatized investment funds that are accumulating citizens' privatization investment coupons during the initial period when they are starting up and developing.

8. That a recommendation should be made to state and nonstate television and radio companies and editorial offices of republican and local papers, as well as the rest of the media that, with the aim of protecting the interests of ordinary citizens wishing to invest their coupons, they should only print adverts in their publications from licensed privatization investment funds.

9. That oblast heads and heads of the Almaty and Leninsk town administrations should offer all possible cooperation in setting up and assisting the activities of privatization investment funds by providing them with the necessary buildings, offering incentives to encourage the development of a network of auditing firms, and training specialists for these organizations.

10. That responsibility for implementing this decree should be entrusted to Zh. S. Karibzhanov, deputy premier and chairman of the State Committee for State Property of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

[Signed] President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N. Nazarbayev

[Dated] Almaty, 23 June 1993

Tajikistan

Trade Agreement Signed With U.S.

LD0107135393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1338 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By KHOVAR news agency correspondent Valery Zhukov for TASS]

[Text] Dushanbe July 1 TASS—U.S. Ambassador to Tajikistan Stanley Escudero has described the signing of an agreement on trade relations between Tajikistan and the United States as an historic moment in relations between the two states.

Speaking at the document signing ceremony he noted that the stabilisation processes which are taking place in the Central Asian republic are opening up an opportunity for broad cooperation in various fields of the economy and inspiring confidence that the rights of foreign investors will be protected.

The American diplomat said the United States is pleased that the leaders of Tajikistan are striving to move towards civilised market relations and welcomes its efforts directed at becoming part of the world economy.

Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Izatullo Khayeyev signed the agreement on behalf of Tajikistan.

Government To Take Part in CSCE Parliamentary Assembly

LD0107211693 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Tajikistan will take part in the second session of the CSCE Parliament assembly due to be held in Helsinki from 6-9 July.

The Tajik Foreign Ministry Information Department reported to the KHOVAR Information Center that a Supreme Soviet delegation led by Deputy Parliament Speaker Kozidavlat Koimdodov, on 1 July left for the capital of Finland in order to attend the above-mentioned session with the aim of establishing lasting parliamentary relations. The delegation of deputies include Izatullo Malikmurodov and Jurakhon Nematov.

The CSCE is fighting to defend human rights and the implementation in practice of the principles of market economy that has been embodied in the 1990 Treaty of Paris. In this connection, the participation of the Tajik delegation at the session will be of great importance for the newly independent state of Tajikistan, as far as joining international democratic structures are concerned.

The republican delegation on their way to the session will be stopping in Turkey at the invitation of the Turkish ambassador to Tajikistan and head of the Turkish delegation at the CSCE.

Turkmenistan

Niyazov Proposes New Commonwealth Structure

LD2906085393 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0730 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] Turkmenistan President Niyazov has proposed forming a new commonwealth of former Soviet republics, including the Baltic countries and Georgia. The idea was contained in a speech to members of the arts community, published in today's newspapers. Niyazov believes new association should be exclusively consultative in nature and intends to officially submit his proposal at the Ashgabat summit of heads of state in autumn this year.

New Currency Not To Be Introduced Before Next Year

LD0107163893 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1400 GMT 1 Jul 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] According to POSTFACTUM, a commission is being set up in Turkmenistan to introduce the national currency, the monat. They will be printed in England and it is planned to make one monat equal to one dollar. According to sources close to the Turkmenistan Government, the introduction of the monat will take place no earlier than next January.

Uzbekistan

Karimov Reveals Details of Republic's Mineral Wealth

PM2806161193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jun 93 First Edition p 2

[Shakhabutdin Zaynutdinov report: "Data on Uzbekistan's Currency Reserves and Mineral Wealth Made Public"]

[Text] Tashkent—Data on Uzbekistan's currency reserves and strategic mineral deposits have been made public for the first time. President Islam Karimov officially presented them to the public when he spoke in Switzerland at the fourth session of the international economic organization "Forum Fund."

The "Forum Fund" extra-governmental international organization, which was formed three years ago, regularly brings together the leaders of East and West Europe in order to facilitate and broaden cooperation between politicians and businessmen. The present conference—the fourth so far—is of a more considerable and representative nature owing to the fact that questions concerning the activity of the newly formed fledgling CIS states have been put on the agenda.

In his speech at the conference Islam Karimov for the first time openly painted a sociopolitical and economic portrait of the republic, describing it as a country of great potential. He offered the following facts, among others, as substantial argument. In terms of total gold production Uzbekistan is now in eighth position in the world, and in fifth position in terms of per capita production. Some 30 deposits of the noble metal have been discovered here, whose combined reserves exceed 4,000 tonnes. So far only 10 deposits of gold-bearing ores have begun to be worked. The quality of Uzbek gold, in particular that coming out of Navoi Oblast's Zarafshan plant, meets the highest world standards, has had no quality claims made against it in the last 20 years, and has in the last two years been awarded three international prizes for quality.

The Uzbekistan president pointed out that the republic has developed good commercial contacts with the Swiss and German banks in which Uzbekistan has deposited its currency gold. Karimov did not, however, state its quantity. According to information from the French weekly V.S.D., there are 300 tonnes of Uzbek gold in the Swiss banks alone.

Participants in the conference also learned that there are 30 deposits containing large reserves of uranium on the republic's territory. Every year, 80,000 tonnes of copper are extracted. There are in addition major reserves of lead, zinc, tungsten, lithium, and other strategically important rare metals.

The information on Uzbekistan's developed energy base is not devoid of interest. For example, prospected coal deposits exceed 2 billion tonnes, while gas reserves stand at about 2 trillion cubic meters. More than 140 petroleum deposits have been discovered. It is worth noting that the oil and gas reserves discovered over the past two years can satisfy Uzbekistan's own requirements and even guarantee the export of energy sources. However, these deposits still have to be opened up, for which large capital investments will be necessary. According to the information of that same V.S.D. weekly, the French company Elf-Aquitaine got to Uzbekistan's rich oil reserves before the Americans. In accordance with its contract with the Uzbek side, Elf-Aquitaine is committed to working the deposits to the east of the Aral Sea.

Uzbekistan's leader firmly stated that all the republic's wealth should first and foremost guarantee a decent life for its citizens, so that economic reforms can be carried out successfully and democratic standards upheld.

Karimov Increases Wages by Additional 50 Percent

LD0107171193 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1100 GMT 1 Jul 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A month ago we reported that wages, pensions, and grants had been increased by 150 percent in Uzbekistan. Today they were increased by another 50 percent, under a decree issued by President Karimov. The minimum wage in the republic is now 11,250 rubles [R]. The minimum pension will be over R12,000. The grant paid to students will be about R10,000 a month. Students keep a 50 percent discount on the cost of meals. The average monthly pay of a doctor is now R37,000, and that of a teacher R31,000, not counting special allowances. In Uzbekistan wages are keeping ahead of prices rather than the other way round.

Pakistan Special Envoy Meets Karimov, Delivers Message

BK2906150093 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] The special envoy of the prime minister, Senator Raja Mohammad Zafarul Haq, held a meeting with the Uzbek president, Islam Karimov, in Tashkent. He delivered a message to the Uzbek president from the prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif. Matters relating to bilateral relations, regional issues, and international developments also came up for discussion during the meeting. President Islam Karimov expressed satisfaction at Pakistan-Uzbek relations.

Armenia

Ter-Petrosyan, Ministers Meet U.S. Government Delegation

LD2906180593 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in English 2140 GMT 29 Jun 93

[Text] On 28 June, President of the Republic of Armenia, Levon Ter-Petrosyan, received a delegation of the Department of International Cooperation of the United States, headed by Mr. Brian Atwood. Greeting the participants of the delegation, the president gratefully thanked the department for their assistance and help. Levon Ter-Petrosyan has also stressed that Armenia considers the help to be a temporary phenomenon, taking into account that the main purposes are the economic development and market reforms and the main obstacle which exists already for about five years is the blockade.

The president said that the document of the European Council of Security and Cooperation [as heard] on the peaceful regulation of the conflict in Karabakh is to help to abolish the blockade. Mr. Brian Atwood said that the government of the United States of America is ready to render every kind of assistance and help in order to speed up the course of economic reforms in Armenia. Mr. Atwood particularly mentioned that during this visit he has been in Russia and Ukraine and could say that among these countries, probably only Armenia had made more steps in economic reforms despite many difficult obstacles. First Deputy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Zhirayr Liparityan and Ambassador of the United States in Armenia, Mr. Harry Gilmore were present at the meeting.

Yesterday, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, Mr. Vigen Chitechyan, received the delegation of the Department of the International Cooperation of the United States and head of the department Mr. Brian Atwood. Mr. Atwood arrived in Armenia on the functions of the President of the United States to get to know the social-economic situation with the sole purpose of rational organizing [as heard] the further economic help. The deputy prime minister told not only about the course of economic reforms, but also about the difficulties and problems which can be solved by the assistance and help of the United States of America. First of all it is a problem of delivering of power, but today's first problem is the preparing for the coming winter.

Karabakh Asks Armenia To Help Send Back Refugees

NC0107202093 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1142 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] appealed to the Armenian authorities with a request to help in the repatriation of the Karabakh citizens who had temporarily abandoned their places of residence during the occupation of a part of NKR's territory by the Azerbaijani Army.

Leonard Petrosyan, head of the Armenian Republic Department for Special Programs, told an ARMENPRES correspondent that the Karabakh leadership is planning to secure the return of the refugees by 1 August in order to resume peaceful economic life.

The Karabakh authorities believe that the benefits, pensions, and other types of humanitarian assistance being provided to the Karabakh citizens who are temporarily sheltered in Armenia should be terminated as of 1 August. The families of the martyrs, disabled, and, for the time being, the residents of Shaumyanovskiy Rayon will be exempted.

Armenian will allocate money for the free transportation of all the residents of Karabakh.

A recovery plan has already been drawn up which will be implemented by using the potential of the Karabakh people. Money has been allocated for this purpose from the state budget as well as from the "Armenia Fund," and the "Artsakh [Nagorno-Karabakh] Program." Already, 300 million rubles have been allocated for Shusha, 150 million rubles for the previously liberated villages in Mardakertskiy Rayon, and so on. The repair of the houses, roads, communications, and agricultural production sector will be given priority.

At present, only 17,000 Karabakh refugees have remained in Armenia from the original 40,000.

Press Secretary Briefs Press on Supreme Soviet Session

LD0107211093 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Report by correspondent E. Sakhinov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The briefing of the Armenian Supreme Soviet's press secretary was optimistic in tone. Final decisions were taken on eight of the 16 matters arising from the Armenian Parliament's last session. Worthy of special mention is the law passed by the parliament on privatization of housing. Fourteen bills were passed in the first reading. But a most important achievement is the fact that the Constitutional Commission has completed its work. Within the next few days, the draft Constitution of the Republic of Armenia will be submitted to the Supreme Soviet, and then opened to nationwide discussion.

Azerbaijan

Aliyev, Guseynov Hold News Conference 30 Jun

LD3006175193 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 0946 GMT 30 Jun 93

[News conference given by Acting President Geydar Aliyev and Prime Minister Surat Guseynov at a National Assembly session in Baku; quotation marks denote passages in Russian—live]

[Text] [Aliyev] Greetings, esteemed representatives of the press. As you know, the National Assembly of Azerbaijan discussed important questions today and adopted important decisions.

Due to the fact that representatives of the press show much interest in the social and political events taking place in Azerbaijan and since we do not have the possibility of meeting the representatives of the press, today, immediately following the session of the National Assembly, we are meeting representatives of the press; we will give a brief information and in the meantime we are ready to answer your questions.

It is well known to you that in connection with the bloody incidents which took place on 4 June, a very tense situation developed in the Republic of Azerbaijan, with confrontation between certain regions and certain strata. The danger of a civil war in Azerbaijan became an inevitable reality. During the period from 4 June, and especially on 15 June, in connection with changing the chairman of the Supreme Soviet, I began working actively on these questions. In the period which followed, necessary decisions were made and processes were carried out and as a logical continuation of these, as their logical result, on 27 June, Surat Guseynov, people's deputy of Azerbaijan, came from the town of Ganja to Baku. Meetings were held between Surat Guseynov and myself on 27, 28, and 29 June, talks were held, there were exchanges of view, and discussions took place. As a result of these, mutual understanding was achieved. Approaches to all issues were established, and as a result relevant decisions were adopted at the National Assembly today.

The negotiations between Surat Guseynov and myself were only one to one and were carried out in secret conditions. Nobody around us became aware of the context of these talks. This must be assessed as a special character of the negotiations. However, in the existing situation and conditions, in order to solve the problems properly there must be profound analyses and discussions, and in order to sort out these problems the negotiations must be held in secret conditions.

As you know, in connection with the bloody incidents which took place in Ganja on 4 June, the National Assembly of the Republic of Azerbaijan set up an investigative commission of deputies. This investigative commission of deputies is functioning. Today all reports of this investigative commission were heard in the assembly. A deadline was set for this commission to finish its work by 7 July, and it will then submit its views to the assembly. However, many questions are to a certain extent clear even without investigation or research and, by taking into consideration all of these, I, as chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and at the same time—on the basis of the assembly resolution of 24 June—as a person who executes the powers of the president of the Republic of Azerbaijan, I submitted a proposal to the National Assembly to appoint Surat Guseynov as prime minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan. This proposal was discussed and I can say with feelings of gratitude that it was adopted by a majority of members of the assembly, a full majority. It was adopted very well. You know that as a result of the vote Surat Guseynov has been appointed prime minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

At the same time, taking into account the experience of Surat Guseynov in setting up the armed forces in Azerbaijan and in carrying out their military operations, while appointing him prime minister a decision was adopted to include the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the Ministry of National Security in the Cabinet of Ministers. These decisions are aimed only at securing stability in Azerbaijan now, leading our people toward national reconciliation and solidarity, setting aside confrontations, completely eliminating the danger of civil war, and at the same time regaining the territory occupied as a result of the Armenian aggression, securing the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan,and ensuring that Azerbaijan as an independent country, as a sovereign country, can own its territory.

As a person executing the powers of the president and as chairman of the Supreme Soviet, I believe that the decisions which we adopted today comply with the conditions of today, and these decisions will undoubtedly increase our general power in Azerbaijan, will further [word indistinct] people, and will gather all political forces, all influential people and elders around the leadership of Azerbaijan. Thus, we will achieve the targets which are before us.

That is all I want to say. Perhaps Surat Guseynov will say a few words on this. Then we are ready to answer your questions.

[Guseynov] Esteemed representatives of the press, esteemed guests! At present our republic is in a grave situation. You know that this battle which has been going on for six years has (?frustrated) our people and my opinion is that this battle should end as soon as possible and the (?life) of our people should be improved. We are prepared to do all we can to raise the economic situation of the republic. This is all I want to say. If you have any questions, ask.

[Aliyev] Prepare your questions. Who is going to give his questions to me and who will question Surat Guseynov, so that we know who is going to answer which question? Whoever has a question ask now.

[Ostankino correspondent] I am sorry, I have a question for you and one to esteemed Surat. "I am an Ostankino television correspondent. Geydar Aliyevich, you have recently had meetings with many diplomatic..."

[Aliyev, interrupting] Speak clearly.

[Ostankino correspondent] "You have recently had meetings with the heads of many diplomatic missions accredited in Baku. My question to you is this: What is the reaction of the international public to events taking place here in Azerbaijan?"

[Aliyev] "You know, I cannot, how should I put it, describe to you in full the reaction of the international public to events in Azerbaijan but I can say one thing, that is that the events taking place in Azerbaijan are the internal affair of the sovereign, independent Republic of Azerbaijan and no state can interfere in our internal affairs. But at the same time I can tell you that during this time I have had no evidence to indicate that any foreign state or any international organization has attempted to interfere in our internal affairs."

[Ostankino correspondent] "Thank you very much. Now a question for Surat Guseynov. Tell me, what will be you first steps in the post of prime minister of Azerbaijan?"

[Guseynov] "My first step will be to form an army. The second thing which interests our people is the economy and food."

[Moderator] Murat [word indistinct] of the newspaper TURKIYE. Getting ready for the newspaper AZERBAIJAN.

[Murat, in Turkish] Esteemed Geydar, I want to present my first question to you, [words indistinct] the people of Azerbaijan are expecting many things from you. They even call you Geydar Baba [Grandfather Geydar], and this is also the name of a famous poem in Azeri written by Shahriyar, an Iranian poet, about his village near a mountain called Geydar Baba. There are [words indistinct] who know you. What kind of a baba will you be, hard or soft?

[Aliyev] If anyone wants to see me as a baba, I will be a baba in the real sense. I have no intention of becoming a mother or father. I only want to serve the people. To serve the people it is not necessary to be a father or grandfather. It is necessary only to suffer with the people and to be together with the people. I want to see my activity from now on in this style and at this level.

[Murat] You mean, you will be soft?

[Aliyev] You know, I do not want to become a baba. Becoming the father of the people is an enormous thing. I do not claim this. I am already a baba. I have three grandchildren.

[Murat] God bless them.

[Aliyev] For this reason, I am now the baba of my grandchildren. Grandfather of my own grandchildren. However, as a leader of the state, and as a political figure I have many times said that I will pursue the path of democracy, the path of political pluralism; I will obey the law, and if needed, I will sacrifice myself to relieve the people of this grave situation.

[Murat] You overthrew the elected president Abulfaz Elchibey and his power. Now, if in the future someone comes up and says that he does not like esteemed Surat and comes with a group of soldiers, what will you do? Where will this democracy—democratic development—lead?

[Aliyev] If I have to be overthrown, I will go myself; it is not necessary to overthrow me.

[Moderator] Garib [word indistinct] from the newspaper AZERBAIJAN and the "News of the Day" program of Azerbaijan television.

[Garib] Your esteemed excellency, a public regulated by law has not yet been created in Azerbaijan. It is strange. For tnis reason, the aspects of the public which regulate and are regulated cannot have the opprtunity of (?relying) on laws in their functions. Under these circumstances certain parties are under the heavy burden of multiparty democracy and their struggle against the ruling establishment [words indistinct].

[Aliyev] If certain parties, certain political organizations, act within the framework of law and in the framework of a real democracy, there is no danger here. However, if by calling it a political organization, a political party, they resort to weapons, or resort to making people rise against the state, this can definitely lead people to a disaster. Unfortunately, at present, the People's Front for example shouted such slogans at the rally which they staged yesterday. I will extend my (?opinion) to them. I have also reported this at the National Assembly session. Certainly, none of these are actions which comply with democracy and with law.

[Unidentified correspondent] The opposition of political forces in the country to the ruling establishment is a reality of the present time [words indistinct]. Is it possible that the struggle against the ruling establishment of certain parties can be frozen and be punished in blocks [as heard] in the National Assembly [words indistinct]?

[Aliyev] You are not asking a question, you are making a proposal. This is the first thing. Second, I am surprised at this question of freezing. What is this freezing? A situation may come about. For example, the minister of foreign affairs may say: I have frozen my activity for three months. Someone else may say: I have frozen for four months. They may come out like this. I say that I am not against any political party or political organization functioning within the framework of a full democracy, within the framework of political pluralism.

[Correspondent] Thank you. I appreciate it. Your excellency Aliyev, you are called various honorific titles such as Ma'allim, Bey, Yoldash, and Janab. Do you accept the process of the use of Bey [esteemed], I mean this way of addressing you [words indistinct]?

[Aliyev] Everybody can address me the way he wants.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

[Aliyev] I call myself only Geydar Aliyev.

[Correspondent] Thank you. I will ask esteemed Surat a question. Esteemed Surat, [words indistinct] people of Azerbaijan had to gather in villages, settlements, districts, towns and rayons. In this sense, Azerbaijan is an expanded country. It is a dangerous zone. As prime minister, what measures can you take for its [word indistinct]?

[Guseynov] The measure is that we will appeal to our people. I earlier said that we would be busy with organizing the army. It seems to me that those weapons should be turned toward the enemy, not our own brothers. We greatly need weapons. Therefore, our people must bring their weapons and hand them in to the authorities.

[Moderator] Akif Jabbarly of the television's "Daily News Program." Getting ready, Radio Liberty.

[Jabbarly] Esteemed chairman! In which directions do the parliament and presidential (?office) of the Republic of Azerbaijan plan to establish political, economic, and diplomatic relations with our close and great neighbor Russia? This is one of the questions. Now a question to both of you: What is your approach toward the group called the Commonwealth of Independent States? This is for the prime minister too.

[Aliyev] I will answer your first question. I have expressed my views on this. The Republic of Azerbaijan will establish mutually beneficial relations, with equal rights, with all countries. This includes the Russian Federation too. As far as your second question on the CIS is concerned, I do not know much about it; I was not involved in such tasks. After I get involved, I will express my views.

[Guseynov] I hold the same views as Geydar Aliyev.

[Moderator] Elmira Khanym from Radio Liberty. Getting ready, NEW YORK TIMES.

[Khanym] Your excellency Aliyev. At present some newspapers are not being published, AZADLYG is not being published, and pressure is applied against some journalists [words indistinct] actions are used. Some newspapers are published in reduced numbers, and the political censor does not allow the publication of certain materials and statements of associations. How can one explain this? Is this an instruction by people higher up or at the bottom [words indistinct]?

[Aliyev] People higher up have made no instruction on this question. On the one hand, the state of emergency is being applied in Azerbaijan, and on the other hand [word indistinct] is not applied. We do not have the possibility to interfere in this task yet. This is the first point. Second, I have no information about pressure by the state bodies against journalists or newspapers. Maybe some people want to use their personal rights and pressure them. I believe, and I will stress what I say from now on, that in Azerbaijan freedom of speech, freedom of opinion, freedom of persons, and human rights must be protected and political pluralism must be further expanded. I have stressed these views and will stress them from now on too.

[Khanym] I would like to know if you have specific proposals and programs for coming out of the crisis and relieving Azerbaijan of the war. When it came to power, the previous government promised to solve the Karabakh problem in three months. After how many months will you be able to solve this problem?

[Aliyev] An economic program will be submitted to the National Assembly by me. At present it is not possible to give a precise time for ending the war, but I will do all I can to put an end to the war.

[Khanym] Have you decided about the political ministries, your excellency Guseynov? Who will they be?

[Guseynov] What?

[Khanym] Who will be leaders of the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of National Security, and Ministry of Internal Affairs.

[Guseynov] Regarding the appointment of all ministries and ministers, at present we are exchanging views on this. In the near future we will tackle the appointment of ministers.

[Khanym] This question is to you [Aliyev]. The previous regime regarded you as a [word indistinct]. How could they offer you the post of chairman of the Supreme Soviet? Thank you.

[Aliyev] Maybe we should ask them [laughs].

[Khanym] They might have [words indistinct] their position and for what purpose they offered it.

[Aliyev] When you ask me this question, Elmira Khanym, you know that during the previous government, for one year, and even before that, I was in Nakhichevan. However, during that year in Nakhichevan I was under great pressures. Sometimes I was under great pressure in the Autonomous Republic of Nakhichevan. For example, Azerbaijan television carried a reportage last night. I had forgotten that they had come there. They were carrying out [word indistinct] on the blockade of Nakhichevan. They came to me. I told them: These are not important, why are you (?doing) this [passage indistinct]. They said that it was not for Azerbaijan , but for the Baltics. Yesterday, I heard that this

was given in the Baltic republics and they were not given in Azerbaijan. [sentence as heard] It is possible to mention many facts like these. However, I think that the people who finally invited me here, including, Abulfaz Elchibey, president of Azerbaijan; Isa Kamberov,former chairman of the Supreme Soviet; and Panah Guseynov, former prime minister realized when they were finally in a difficult situation that it was perhaps necessary to invite Geydar Aliyev. They invited me and I came. Not because of that; I came when people were in a grave situation.

[Khamyn] My question to his excellency Guseynov: There is a report to the effect that your people besieged the Supreme Soviet for a few days and that they controlled the Supreme Soviet. It is said that you have taken the post of prime minister by pressuring the Supreme Soviet. What is your opinion on this view?

[Guseynov] I cannot express my views yet.

[Khamyn] Thank you very much.

[Aliyev] I can answer this. No one has pressured the Supreme Soviet and Surat Guseynov has not received the post of prime minister through pressure. I can answer this.

[Khamyn] Thank you.

[Moderator] Shleman Sergey Aleksandrovich from THE NEW YORK TIMES. Getting ready, KHALG GAZETI.

[Aleksandrovich] "Mr. Aliyev, by our reckoning, already in 11 republics of the former Soviet Union, former Soviet leaders have either remained or returned to power. Could you explain why this process is taking place? And, if you will, yet another question to the prime minister: What is the future of the negotiations with Western firms on the development of the Caspian Sea oil industry?"

[Aliyev] "Your first question, and I will probably answer your second question later, too. Guseynov can also give his own view. Now, the first question. This is not the first time that this question has been asked, but it surprises me, anyway. You see, there is no Soviet Union now. There is no communist party which governed the country without limit in the former Soviet Union. We have not got out of the habit. New people, if they were born during these two or three years, cannot work or carry out practical and, what is more, political activities [sentence as heard]. In the republics, people who are trusted come back to power. As for whether they are statesmen of the former Soviet Union or new statesmen, it does not matter at all. This issue worries some unnecessarily.

"I have said and I reiterate now that it is senseless to divide society into former and present people now, since society is in such a hard situation not only in Azerbaijan, if we speak about the former Soviet Union, but in all regions of the former Soviet Union. At least, those who are entrusted by the people must occupy some position or other, whether they are former or new persons.

"As for your second question, about the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers on stopping further movement of the document—I think it is called a declaration or something like that—this document about utilizing the oil resources of Azerbaijan—yes, statement, it should not scare anyone. We simply want to see what is what. Very unjustly a campaign is in full swing concerning this issue here and abroad, including in Turkey. I have made an official statement to the leaders of the Turkish government that no one should be worried. At least, the approach of the new leadership to this issue will be more reasonable and more civilized."

[Moderator] Ilgar Rustamov from the KHALG GAZETI newspaper. Getting ready, MUSTAGIL newspaper.

[Rustamov] Your Excellency Aliyev, Your Excellency Prime Minister! I would like to say that both in foreign and internal policy we wish to have achieved the positiveness which the people desire. Which urgent measures will you implement in order to achieve internal stability?

[Aliyev] Measures which are being implemented today, decisions which have been adopted, and talks which have been held during the past few days between us, and all of the measures which I have taken as chairman of the Supreme Soviet and as a person implementing the powers of the president—and these days together with Surat Guseynov—are solely aimed at solving these questions.

[Unidentified correspondent] Esteemed Surat Guseynov, [passage indistinct].

[Moderator] Musallim Hasanoglu from MUSTAGIL newspaper. Getting ready [words indistinct]

[Hasanoglu] Your Excellency Aliyev! When Abulfaz Elchibey left Baku you said: The state program is in force in Azerbaijan today [words indistinct]. That was my first question. Now allow me to ask my second question. Abulfaz Elchibey's decree on giving his powers to you (?was read) at the National Assembly session. This decree was [words indistinct]. When did Elchibey (?prepare) these documents? Thank you.

[Aliyev] First, there was a government crisis in Azerbaijan. The decisions which were adopted today will, I believe, give a guarantee for overcoming the government crisis. However, Abulfaz Elchibey, who is living in the village of Kalaki, states that he is still the president of Azerbaijan. And some of his supporters who staged a demonstration in front of the People's Front building yesterday say that they support Abulfaz Elchibey...[interrupted by indistinct remark from the floor]...and that he will come and fulfill his duty as president. This (?claim) shows that this problem has not finished yet. However, it is known that on 24 June, due to the absence of the president here, the National Assembly gave his powers to the chairman of the Supreme Soviet. The prime minister

was appointed today. These are the bases for eliminating this crisis. As far as Abulfaz Elchibey's order is concerned, I received it two days ago, two days ago, after the decision was adopted. For this reason I showed it so that everybody should know that there was such an order.

[Hasanoglu] Thank you very much.

[Moderator] Rauf Mirgadirov from the National Independence Party's press office. Getting ready, Turkish Television [words indistinct].

[Mirgadirov] As everybody acknowledges today, there is no complete ruling body in Azerbaijan today. The National Assembly has been dissolved by [words indistinct]. What is your view on holding parliamentary elections in the near future. That is my first question.

[Aliyev] There are many shortcomings in this subject in Azerbaijan. However, I cannot answer your question at this time because internal stability in Azerbaijan has been disrupted for many months. There are great misfortunes in the battle, on the frontline, in Karabakh. These questions are questions which have the priority. Our strength must be directed either toward solving these questions or toward getting the economy to proceed to a certain extent in the right direction. It is obvious that while we are busy with these issues we can also express our approach to your question [words indistinct].

[Mirgadirov] My second question: In your speeches you talk about uniting the political forces, in your recent speeches. Now we see the solidarity of Geydar Aliyev and Surat Guseynov. In the near future, which political forces do you consider to be attracted to this process? [words indistinct]

[Aliyev] All political forces are considered to be attracted; this is the first one.

[Mirgadirov] As a concrete example.

[Aliyev] As a concrete example, Babak Huseynli, secretary of the National Independence Party, and [name indistinct], chairman of the Azerbaijan Television company. Is this not a demonstration of [word indistinct] uniting the forces?

[Mirgadirov] My last question: I would like to know if you protested against the application of the state of emergency in your speech to parliament.

[Aliyev interrupts] Yes, I did not allow them to do it.

[Mirgadirov] You did not vote for it and it was highly praised. I would like to know if the state of emergency is used against the political opposition and these facilities are used [words indistinct] and will you speak in the near future about the [word indistinct] of the state of emergency or not?

[Aliyev] First, nothing will be used against the opposition. Second, let us breath a bit, we will see the rest later.

[Moderator] Mehmet Ali Birand, the 32nd Day Program of Turkish Television. Getting ready (?Akl) via Irade Agency.

[Birand, speaks in Turkish] My first question is to esteemed Aliyev. As it is understood, today you gave all your powers, nearly all your powers, to Surat Guseynov. Is the strong man of Azerbaijan today you or Guseynov Bey?

[Aliyev] No, you do not understand. I did not give all my powers to Surat Guseynov. Surat Guseynov has been appointed prime minister and three ministries which were not in the structure of the Cabinet of Ministers have been included in the structure of the Cabinet of Ministers. You must know, however, that the Cabinet of Ministers is subordinated to the president of Azerbaijan and therefore all powers are in the hands of the person who implements the powers of the president.

[Birand] Are you going to use these powers or Surat Bey?

[Aliyev] You know, each one has his own powers. All powers of the president of Azerbaijan, at present, by the decision of the Milli Majles, are in the hands of the chairman of the Supreme Soviet.

[Birand] Is this a joint administration or a single administration?

[Aliyev] I answered your question. This administration is a full administration.

[Birand] Has democracy ended in Azerbaijan?

[Aliyev] Why should the democracy end?

[Birand] Has democracy ended or does it continue in Azerbaijan?

[Aliyev] It continues and it will continue even stronger.

[Birand] Thank you.

[Unidentified journalist] [Name indistinct] Agency. I wish to ask a question. How will you form the cabinet? [sentence indistinct]

[Aliyev] When I was answering another question I said that after 15 days it will be presented to the Supreme Majles [as heard] and our people.

[Moderator] Radio Liberty, Elmira Akhundova.

[Akhundova] "LITERATURNAYA GAZETA correspondent Elmira Akhundova, in this case, asking a question on behalf of Radio Liberty. A question to Geydar Aliyevich. What will happen next to President Abulfaz Elchibey? Most likely, there will not be room for him in the new structures of power. How and when will his ouster take place? Will it happen by way of a referendum or by way of announcing new presidential elections?"

[Aliyev] "Elmira-khanum [words indistinct] he himself has to think about his destiny and about his situation. It

looks as though in this situation it will be difficult for him to remain in the settlement of Kalaki for a long time."

[Akhundova, switches to Azeri] The second question is to Surat Bey. Surat Bey! In your opinion should the post of president be kept in Azerbaijan or should it be abolished? There are various views on this in the republic.

[Guseynov] In my opinion it should be [word indistinct] and abolished until the elections.

[Akhundova] Thank you very much.

[Moderator] [Name indistinct] Khanym. Getting ready for the newspaper YENI MUSAVAT.

[Unidentified correspondent] A question to Surat Bey. You say that the war should end. How? Through political ways or by fighting? Especially these days, last Sunday Agdere fell to Armenians. Thank you.

[Guseynov] If it is not possible through negotiations, we will end the war by military ways and with victory.

[Moderator] YENI MUSAVAT newspaper, Naila Rahimgyzy. Getting ready for newspaper [name indistinct].

[Rahimgyzy] Geydar Bey, my question is to you: [question indistinct]

[Aliyev] I would like to let you know that I have not seen a single newspaper these days. I do not have time to read a single page or article in the newspaper. For this reason, I am not aware. However, I am telling you that all newspapers must be published and there must be no limitations for the press.

[Rahimgyzy] Irrespective of their context, is that right?

[Aliyev] At present [word indistinct] continues. [Words indistinct] continues.

[Rahimgyzy] Surat Bey, what do the deputies [words indistinct]?

[Guseynov] At present the Procuracy is conducting an investigation. However, their crime will be proved or soon they will be [word indistinct] to our people at the Supreme Majles.

[Rahimgyzy] [Question indistinct]

[Guseynov] You must submit this question to the Supreme Procuracy.

[Moderator] KHOJALY SESI newspaper, Sardar (Mehdiyev). Getting ready for the newspaper Azerbaijan [word indistinct].

[Mehdiyev] My question is to Surat Bey. First of all, after the Khojaly tragedy, the newspaper KHOJALY SESI was seeking a place [word indistinct]. Many thanks to the brave people of Ganja; at present the newspaper KHOJALY SESI reaches [word indistinct] in Ganja. Surat Bey, the town of Agdam in Nagorno-Karabakh faced a danger. It is true that with your help it [word indistinct] to a certain extent. In your opinion, as some ill-intentioned people might say, will they leave after they enter Agdam? I mean the enemies.

[Guseynov] I will do all we can so that such an incident will not take place.

[Moderator] Azerbaijan [word indistinct] [name indistinct] Guseynov. Getting ready for the newspaper [name indistinct].

[Correspondent Guseynov] Geydar Ma'allim, my question is to you. You said that when you were chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Nakhichevan, you were against the decree of the president on declaration of the state of emergency in the territory of Azerbaijan. Today, why do you not as a person implementing the powers of the president [word indistinct] on [word indistinct] of this decree. This was my first question.

This is my second question: After you began to fulfill the powers of the president of the republic, was there any communications between you and leaders of Armenia?

[Aliyev] I have already answered your first question. We are busy solving complicated questions. We have no time to discuss the question of keeping or lifting the state of emergency. As far as your second question is concerned, when heavy fighting was going on in Agdere and around Agdam, I had telephone conversations with some people in Armenia.

[Moderator] The newspaper [name indistinct], Abbas Abdulaliyev. Getting ready for the newspaper ADALAT.

[Abdulaliyev] Esteemed chairman, it is a well-known fact to most of us as well as to the electorate that in the presidential elections last year, academic Nizami Suleymanov was a winner by a majority of votes. This fact shows that there was sufficient political force behind him. Among political parties in opposition that are occupying a radical position [words indistinct] perhaps are the Independent Azerbaijan Party and its chairman Nizami Suleymanov. In political conferences held recently on the political situation in the country, Nizami Suleymanov was not seen and his name is never mentioned. A view is being formed among people to the effect that, as in the period of the ruling body so far, supporters of the new government too have a nonobjective attitude toward him and alienate him. Please tell us about your approach to this question.

[Aliyev] I personally have great respect for Nizami Suleymanov. He came to Nakhichevan a few times when I was in Nakhichevan. There we had meetings and talks. In many cases when we were busy with these questions, Nizami Suleymanov, as far as I know, was always in Ganja.

[Moderator] The newspaper ADALAT, Agakishi Bahaduroglu. Getting ready [word indistinct] programs of the television.

[Bahaduroglu] [Question indistinct]

[Aliyev] How do you know they were dismissed from work?

[Bahaduroglu] [Question indistinct]

[Aliyev] How do you know? Have you read an order or was it reported in a newspaper.

[Bahaduroglu] [Question indistinct]

[Aliyev] Where is this information from? You have no information. [sentence indistinct] However, you know that, certainly if you are a well-informed person, all people from the People's Front have abandoned their work places—one has said: I will not work; one has said: I resign, one has said: I freeze my activity. [indistinct interruption] An order was given about dismissal from work of one person from the People's Front and a few people from the presidential apparatus who did not turn up for work. No order was given about anything else. A decree has not been issued either.

[TV correspondent, name indistinct] From Azerbaijan TV. I have three questions. [words indistinct] Reports come occasionally about Abulfaz Elchibey taking you to international court. To what extent is this a fact?

[Aliyev] Who? Me?

[TV correspondent] Yes.

[Aliyev] Let him take me to court.

[TV correspondent] My second question: Irrespective of the social and political situation in the republic [words indistinct]

[Aliyev] You know that I am involved in the internal affairs of Azerbaijan. I have no time to be involved in those affairs.

[TV correspondent] Here is my last question: The latest events that took place in the republic and to a certain extent in rayons and basically in Balakend were related to names of [word indistinct] [sentence indistinct] Can you assess this incident?

[Aliyev] I do not have precise information about the incidents in Balakend. However, in all other rayons, I mean, at the request of people, local executive governors were elected. When I say elected, I mean that local councils were convened and at the same councils, in order to avoid confusion, executive governors were temporarily appointed. Temporarily that is.

[TV correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Aliyev] I will closely tackle the question of Balakend. We will put everything in order.

[Moderator] The newspaper [name indistinct] Artin Afshynly. Getting ready for Radio Azerbaijan [word indistinct].

[Afshynly] Geydar Ma'allim, after the known January events, the forces of empire applied mental and spiritual terror against political forces in the republic. This situation has continued even since you came to your post. It is a fact that students [words indistinct] in order to defend the nation of Azerbaijan. Some of them were even injured. When you came to your post, if we say that democracy [words indistinct] Geydar Ma'allim, what is your attitude toward these incidents?

I have something else to say. We, a group of journalists, recently met with the president. The whole of the news conference was recorded by Azerbaijan television. So there are two recordings. One of them was recorded on 19 June by the Nakhichevan Television. The other was on 21, 22 June, when the powers of the president were given to the chairman of the Supreme Soviet at the National Assembly. Why was that news conference not broadcast by Azerbaijan television? Here interested forces [words indistinct]. Thank you.

[Aliyev] First, I reject fully your question and your opinion about the forces of empire once persecuting the democratic or opposition forces or applying repression against them and your view that this still continues. There is no such thing, and it does not continue at present. There is no repression. There is no persecution.

You say that a [word indistinct] took place during the rally of students. First, I am not aware of this. Second, I would point out, once again, that there should not be any rallies during a state of emergency. Certainly, measures must be taken if the regime of the state of emergency is disrupted. However, I am neither for using force nor for hurting people. It is necessary to make people understand only. This is the first point. I noticed a trace of partiality in your question, and I wish you would abandon this tendency.

Second, the news conference of Abulfaz Elchibey in Kalaki was broadcast. I listened to it on television myself. However, I do not know anything about the second news conference. I want to tell you something. These days I do not have even one minute to be busy with these affairs.

[Moderator] [Words indistinct] Bagyrov. Getting ready for the newspaper HAG SOZ.

[Bagyrov] Your Excellency Aliyev! Since my view was published in various forms in the press, I would like you to give me a concrete reply. To what extent does the decision of the National Assembly dated 24 June comply with international norms? This is my first question.

My second question is to Surat Bey. I would like to know if there will be a change in the foreign economic relations of Azerbaijan from now on, especially with the neighboring countries.

My third question is to both of you. If Geydar Aliyev and Surat Guseynov have identified their view at present, when will they stand against each other. Can there be a diversity of views?

[Aliyev] First, you say, how much does the decision adopted on 24 June comply with international law? You yourselves clarify this. If we have adopted it, you yourselves [word indistinct]. For this reason, it is not necessary for you to ask me this question. You clarify it yourselves. What was your second question?

[Bagyrov] Will there be a change in economic relations with foreign countries?

[Aliyev] I told you that economic relations with all countries, including neighboring countries, will develop rapidly from now on. Answering your second question, I say that now that we are so (?enthusiastic) about working in one place, you ask will this [word indistinct] or not? How wise can you be! Give up asking such questions. Such ideas destroy the people of Azerbaijan. What will you achieve with such ideas?

[HAG SOZ correspondent] HAG SOZ newspaper, [name indistinct]. Your Excellency Geydar Aliyev, my first question is to you. Do you have a concrete idea about [word indistinct] in the hands of Azerbaijanis or Armenians living in the republic?

[Aliyev] We have concrete ideas, and we will apply these ideas.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Aliyev] The talks must be ended, and it is necessary to be busy with concrete tasks. [sentence indistinct]

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Aliyev] First, I want to answer your question to Surat Guseynov on Turkey. Now, you certainly must learn more profoundly that there is a great difference between the government structure, the structure of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkey, and the government structure of Azerbaijan. Without knowing this, why do you ask such a question?

[Correspondent, interrupting] [Words indistinct]

[Aliyev] No, you do not know this. If you knew, you would (?answer) because the Turkish Government is in the hands of the True Path Party. Since there was a difference of view among members of the True Path Party and among members of the parliament from the True Path Party, these questions have come about. We do not have such a thing. The government is not in the hands of one party in our country. You must understand this. Your question is inappropriate for this reason, and it might generally cause confusion here. This is one thing.

Second, in order to strengthen the defenses of Azerbaijan, whoever has any kind of initiative—whoever can provide any kind of a service—they will all be appreciated.

We are grateful to all of you for your attention. Thank you, until we meet again.

Guseynov To Begin Consultations To Form Government

LD0107144393 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Surat Guseynov, recently elected prime minister of Azerbaijan, has started to address the questions connected with his forming the new government. He believes that it is necessary to form a government of national confidence that would include real professionals—irrespective of their political convictions. The prime minister stated that he is ready to begin consultations with all political parties and movements. At the moment no candidates for the key posts have been announced yet. But it is possible that next week at least part of the new cabinet will be presented to the parliament.

Kamberov Gives News Conference on Jun Events

NC0107155693 Baku TURAN in English 1349 GMT 01 Jul 93

[Text] Baku, July 1 (TURAN)—At today's press-conference in the residention of "Musavat" Party its leader Isa Kamberov said, that strategical line of the leadership of Azerbaijan was the only right one and that's why one could expect corresponding external and internal reaction.

I. Kamberov noted, that decision of Milli Mejlis June 24 1993 to strip Elchibey of his presidential powers was, in fact, military- state coup, performed in Azerbaijan.

Touching upon Surat Guseynov's acceptance premier, I. Kamberov stressed, that "Surat Guseynov's factor is real, he represents objective power and it must be taken into consideration". "I considered him to be a man of decision and I think he can achieve success". But I. Kamberov thinks, that in general this government can turn out temporary too.

I. Kamberov said, in these conditions peaceful and democratic way of struggle would be the only right one. "Musavat" party will continue its struggle by parliamentary way, he said.

I. Kamberov also pointed, that influence of "oil" factor to the developments of June events in the Republic was not excluded. As confirmation he presented cabinets decree June 23 on stopping the signing of declarations with Western companies on developments of oil fields of Caspian Sea and also bank operations with foreign partners.

According to I. Kamberov words, implementation of agreements on cooperation with Western oil companies would have served the base to form real economic and political independence of Azerbaijan.

Aliyev Does Not Want Turkey To 'Interfere' in Affairs

NC0107132793 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 1029 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Baku, 01.07.93 (ASSA-IRADA)—[passage omitted] Geydar Aliyev presented his discontent by the campaign launched by the Turkish mass media. Azerbaijan is building good relationship with all countries including Russia. Turkey, too, has fine relations with Russia. Why should not we have close links with Russia, especially, as we used to have them and they are impossible to cancel in no time, underscored G. Aliyev. We want Turkey respect Azeri laws, support us and not interfere into the internal affairs of sovereign Azerbaijan, said G. Aliyev. [passage omitted]

Aliyev Meets With Oil Company Officials

NC0107150493 Yerevan SNARK in English 1319 GMT 01 Jul 93

[Text] Baku, July 1 (SNARK)—Meeting with the representatives of the Amoco, the US oil company, one of the participants of the joint project of working out the oil deposits, the head of the Azerbaijani Milli Majlis Geydar Aliyev tried to ensure them that the new leadership of the state is deeply interested in mutual profitable cooperation with Western companies, TURAN News Agency was informed by the circles which are close to the Azerbaijani parliament. He considered the instruction on ceasing the hard currency operations with Western companies a temporary action. We want to know, "what is what?" The circles which are close to the Azerbaijani Government have informed the attempts the authorities are undertaking to torpedo the joint oil project and to begin signing the separate contracts with each side. Each foreign company should solve its problems by itself.

Urges More Cooperation

LD0107180793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1705 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By AZERTAC correspondent Dzhamilya Kuliyeva for TASS]

[Text] Baku July 1 TASS—"Azerbaijan is not only prepared to continue cooperation with foreign companies in the area of oil development at sea, but stepup talks in this direction," Acting Azeri president and chairman of the Azeri parliament, Geydar Aliyev, said on Thursday during a meeting with a delegation of the Amoco Caspian Sea Petroleum Company led by its president Robert Blanton.

Upon completion of the meeting, Blanton told journalists that whatever terms for the joint development and exploitation of sea oil resources were suggested, the Amoco Company will remain in Baku, counting on long-term cooperation with Azeri partners.

'Special Examination' of Draft Oil Contracts Urged

LD0107222793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2050 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By AZERTAC correspondent Alla Baula for TASS]

[Text] Baku July 2 TASS—Draft contracts between Azerbaijan and foreign oil companies and the declaration on unification should be subjected to special examination before being signed, Azeri Vice- Premier Rasul Kuliyev said on Thursday at a meeting with representatives of the leadership of six foreign oil companies which are conducting negotiations on joint development and exploitation of Azeri marine oil deposits.

The visit by the representatives of these companies to Baku was connected with the June 23 Azeri Cabinet of Minister's resolution on temporary suspension of the declaration on unification signed early in June and all financial transactions of these companies in Azerbaijan.

According to Kuliyev, this step does not mean the republic's refusal to cooperate with foreign oil companies. It is necessary to study in greater details the declaration and draft contracts with each foreign oil company, Kuliyev said. He also said the Azeri government's examination will be held within two and a half months and terms of the signing of contracts will not be violated.

Defense Ministry Reports on Agdam, Fizuli

LD0107190893 Baku Radio Baku International Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] The information service of the Azerbaijanian Defense Ministry reports that the situation in the Armenian-Azerbaijanian fighting zone is still extremely tense. The Armenian troops have concentrated a considerable amount of military equipment and personnel in the approaches of the Azerbaijanian town of Agdam where fierce, bloody battles are being fought.

The Azerbaijanian defenders of the motherland are repulsing the Armenian invaders who are striving to seize completely one more district of our republic.

The ring of the siege closes down upon the town of Agdam which is constantly being shelled from the Armenian positions. There are losses among the civilians and there is considerable destruction in the town.

The Armenian aggressors are constantly subjecting to artillery and missile shelling the Azerbaijanian town of Fizuli and the Azerbaijanian national army divisions in the (?Terter) district of Azerbaijan.

Huge amounts of military equipment and personnel are being transported from Armenia to the fighting zone in Azerbaijan via the so-called Lachin Corridor to increased the armed pressure on the previously mentioned Azerbaijanian territory.

Karabakh Offensive Reportedly Contained

LD0107201493 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] In Nagorno-Karabakh, according to reports from Baku, the Azerbaijani Army has managed to halt an offensive of the Karabakh forces, that have received reinforcements from Armenia, in the region of Mardakert. On some stretches of the front, the fighting is going on within two or three kilometers from the Azerbaijani rayon center of Agdam. There have been casualties on both sides.

Georgia

'Combat Helicopter' Downed in Abkhazia

LD0107122293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1208 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Schegoleva]

[Text] Sochi July 1 TASS—Georgian forces downed an unidentified combat helicopter on Thursday in the mountains of Svanetia near the settlement of Mestia, according to the Georgian command in Abkhazia.

It told TASS that the helicopter was carrying weapons to Abkhazia. A group of military experts has left for the site of the crash.

Abkhaz Separatists Building Up Armed Forces

LD0107164393 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1500 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] According to the CONTACT news agency, a Russian assault ship entered Gudauta Sea port on the morning of 30 June. This boat had brought foodstuffs to Abkhazia and carried refugees from Tkvarcheli to Gudauta a few days ago during the humanitarian action carried out by Russia.

This time the boat brought over 10 small-caliber cannons and a self-propelled gun. The mentioned Russian assault ship loaded with military equipment left Sevastopol for Gudauta on 27 June.

Abkhazian separatists have accumulated a large amount of armored equipment and artillery in the area along the Gumista River frontline. As we have reported, according to the barbaric plan drawn up by the opposing side, they wanted to carry out massed shelling of Sukhumi from three directions, destroy completely the city and cause panic among the population. Then, with minor losses they would attempt to enter the city freely.

General Chindarov performed a special role in the implementation of this plan. Despite the fact that Chidarov is of Ossetian descent and does not conceal outstanding hatred towards Georgians, he gets instructions from Russia.

Recently, 10 perfectly trained special-assignment instructors were transferred from Gudauta to the Tkvarcheli zone. Their aim is to carry out guerrilla fighting against Georgian positions.

Taking into account the abovementioned facts, it becomes clear once again that a peaceful settlement of the conflict does not suit Abkhazian separatists and their henchmen. Their goal is to wreck Russo-Georgian negotiations and to break the territorial integrity of Georgia.

In his television interviews, [Abkhaz President Vladislav] Ardzinba makes evident insidious ways and senseless ideas of his people's [word indistinct].

Abkhaz Artillery 'Heavily' Pounds Sukhumi

LD0207084393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0812 GMT 2 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tengiz Pachkoria]

[Text] Tbilisi July 2 TASS—Abkhaz troops heavily pounded the city of Sukhumi with artillery, tanks, trench mortars and Grad missile launchers between 01:30 and 04:00 on Friday, says a report circulated by the press centre of the Georgian military command in Sukhumi.

The report notes that it was the most vicious shelling of Sukhumi committed by Abkhaz troops. Some 200 rounds exploded in the city. Over 30 apartment houses and offices were destroyed. There are casualties. Exact information on them will be given later.

Abkhaz detachments resumed bombardment of Sukhumi this morning at 08:00.

According to the press centre, intensive firing engagements were conducted at the frontline near the Gumista river and in the Ochamchiry district throughout the night.

Abkhaz Marines Cut Sukhumi-Ochimchirskiy Corridor

LD0207102193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0910 GMT 2 Jul 93

[Text] Moscow, 2 Jul (ITAR-TASS)—Marines of the Abkhazian Armed Forces landed behind Georgian lines at 1225 today. Together with subunits of the eastern front, they cut off the corridor connecting Sukhumi with Ochimchirskiy rayon. This was reported to an ITAR-TASS correspondent at the Abkhasian Supreme Soviet's

press center. No details have been received so far from the Georgian side in connection with the Abkhazian landing.

Nadareishvili Claims Russian Troops Fire on Sukhumi

MK0207112093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Jul 93 p 3

[Guga Lolishvili report: "Dniester Guards in Russian OMON Uniforms. No Hope for Speedy End to War in Abkhazia"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] In his appearance on Tbilisi television on 30 June, Tamaz Nadareishvili, chairman of the Abkhazia council of ministers, stated: "We have facts, including several radio intercepts of adjustment of gun fire against Sukhumi by officers of the Russian troops stationed in Abkhazia. There is information that there is a Russian OMON [special purpose militia detachment] unit in Tkvarcheli. Abkhazians are getting arms, ammunition, and equipment from across the border on the Russian side."

In commenting on Nadareishvili's statement, one should point out that NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA has already reported the presence in Tkvarcheli of a group of mercenaries from the Dniester, and that part of the Dniester men had arrived in the region wearing Russian OMON uniforms. That obviously explains Nadareishvili's statement about the presence in the zone of the Abkhazian conflict of Russia's OMON troops, which of course hardly agrees with reality. As for Abkhazian formations receiving armaments from across the Russian border, this alone can explain the presence in the arsenals of the Abkhazians of a great quantity of armored vehicles, because at the start of the conflict they had hardly any armored vehicles and tanks to speak of. Responding to the Abkhazian leaders' claim that all the available arms have been captured, the Georgian side says that the Georgian Army did not sustain losses of arms to this extent. Still open is the question of where the Abkhazians got their helicopters.

Be that as it may, one has to state that the situation in the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone leaves no hope at all for a speedy end to the war. The stance adopted by the Gudauta leaders who insist on the withdrawal of Georgian troops from the territory of Abkhazia as a precondition for talks is hardly realistic, because Tbilisi officials would obviously not go for it.

Clearly, despite Tbilisi's attempts to ensure a wider UN and NATO participation in the settlement effort, the key issues will have to be solved, sooner or later, with Moscow. [passage omitted]

As for the Abkhazian side, the Abkhazian delegates at the recent talks in Moscow with the participation of Georgia, Abkhazia, and Russia stated that they were not exactly overjoyed at the prospect of UN participation in the resolution of the crisis, since they did not trust this organization because of the influence Shevardnadze has there. This was revealed at a press conference in Tbilisi by Aleksandr Kavsadze, Shevardnadze's extraordinary and plenipotentiary representative for Abkhazia, who leads the Georgian delegation to the Moscow talks. [passage omitted]

Russian Forces Protest Abkhaz Leader's Statement

NC0107151893 Yerevan SNARK in English 1319 GMT 01 Jul 93

[Text] Tbilisi, July 1 (SNARK)—The leadership of the Russian forces in Transcaucasia has considered the declaration done on June 28 in the TV issue of the "Moment of the True" by the Abkhazian leader Vladislav Ardzinba as provocative. SNARK's reporter from Tbilisi has informed the official protest expressed by the group of the Russian forces in connection with the Ardzinba's declaration on the help the Russian troops are offering to the Georgian forces: Arms, military machines, data which help them to prepare the large-scale offensive to Abkhazia. It doesn't correspond to reality. Its main goal is to worsen the situation between Russia and Georgia. Russia is and will be neutral to national conflicts taking into consideration the territorial integrity of each state. The leadership of the group of the Russian forces demands Ardzinba express his regrets.

Estonia

Foreign Ministry Calls Russian Decision 'Interference'

LD0107190493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1719 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Malovelyan]

[Text] Tallinn, 1 Jul—The Estonian Foreign Ministry assessed the decision of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation "On Measures in Connection With the Violations of Human Rights on the Territory of the Republic of Estonia" which was adopted today as "interference in the internal affairs of another country and as unprovoked attacks on the decision of a freely elected parliament of a democratic state".

In the statement circulated today by the Estonian Foreign Ministry it states that "the law on elections to bodies of local self-administration, granting the franchise to all those non-citizens legally resident in Estonia, fully corresponds to international norms". The law "On Foreigners" which has been sent for expert examination by the CSCE and the Council of Europe, is aimed at the lawful regulation of the sojourn of all foreigners in Estonia, including citizens of the former Soviet Union, and the provision of legal protection of their rights and interests.

"It is obvious that, under the pretext of protecting the interests of ethnic Russians, some circles in Russia are trying to continue the great power policy of pressure, wishing to draw Estonia into its sphere of influence, which is evidenced by the recent statements of Russia's supreme leadership as well. Such an approach casts doubt upon confidence in Russia as a partner in cooperation in Europe in the period following the Cold War which was based on the principles of the CSCE and the Council of Europe," it states in the document.

Parliamentary Commission Chairman Meets Russian Negotiator

LD0107170293 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1600 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Excerpts] Vello Saatpalu, the Riigikogu's [parliament] foreign commission chairman said to ETA that viewed from Moscow the actual attitude to what is taking place in Estonia is not at all that negative and nobody adopts a particularly tragic pose. Saatpalu returned today from Moscow where he spoke at two news conferences explaining the actual situation in Estonia to journalists. [passage omitted]

Saatpalu added that he had a meeting today with Vasiliy Svirin, leader of the Russian delegation in the Estonian-Russian talks. Both sides acknowledged that the meeting was mutually useful, said Saatpalu.

Official on Differences With Russia

MK0107125093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Jul 93 p 3

[Vladislav Kuzmichev report under general heading "Will 'Narva Powder Keg' Explode? This Largely Depends on Council of Europe Decision"]

[Text] Speaking at yesterday's news briefing at the Estonian Republic's embassy in Moscow, Vello Saatpalu, a commission chairman of the National Assembly of Estonia, revealed that several members of the republic's government (including Juri Lujk, head of the Estonian delegation at the talks with Russia) have drawn up a draft decree dealing with the obtaining of residence permits. The decree proposes the introduction of serious preferential terms for officially registered inhabitants of today's Estonia: practically all of them will be issued residence permits with no additional preconditions. But this is just a draft.

Vello Saatpalu also held a press conference at the Moscow Slavyanskaya hotel yesterday.

Observing yet one more time that there are no human rights violations in Estonia, he intimated that 602,000 non-Estonians live in the Estonian Republic today; 45,000 of them are citizens of Estonia, and 30,000 are citizens of Russia.

Vello Saatpalu pointed out that the actual cause for the sharpening of Russian-Estonian relations is the fact that Estonia "is slipping from under Russia's political and economic control."

Saatpalu cited three main reasons for differences between Russia and Estonia:

1. Russia demands that Estonia grant citizenship to all with no restrictions.

2. Russia does not recognize the fact that the Soviet government gave Estonia independence in the 1920's.

3. The delay of the Russian troops withdrawal from Estonia (there are 4,000 officers and 3,000 conscripts in Estonia).

He also observed that activities of national minorities' societies are encouraged.

Regarding the situation in Narva, Saatpalu confirmed the report about the head of the Estonian delegation to talks with Russia having been sent there. Also, a delegation of the Estonian parliament will arrive in Narva on 1 July. A meeting of the foreign ministers of Russia and Estonia is expected. On 30 June, the CSCE high commissioner arrived in Tallinn.

In his opinion, all depends on Russia, and if there are more such statements like those made by Kozyrev and Yeltsin on its part, it would be very hard to reach a compromise.

Saatpalu stressed that the Estonian law on citizenship is in full conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Premier, CSCE Official Discuss Law on Foreigners

LD0107211993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1757 GMT 1 Jul 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Maloveryan]

[Text] Tallinn July 1 TASS—Estonian Prime-Minister Mart Laar and Max Van Der Stoel, the CSCE high commissioner on ethnic minorities, in the course of their meeting on Thursday [1 July] came to the conclusion that Estonia's newly-adopted law on foreigners really contains clauses that arouse the apprehensions of the non-indigenous population of the republic about their future.

The two sides agreed that the apprehensions can be dispelled by appropriate acts of government elaborated with the participation of representatives of Russian-speaking population, the press-service of the Estonian Government reported.

Estonian prime-minister noted that the tension in the relations between Estonians and the republic's non-indigenous people had arisen because the latter had been poorly informed about the contents of the laws being elaborated and adopted by the parliament. He requested Van Der Stoel for CSCE aid in creating a service that would provide true and prompt information on every aspect of governmental policy.

Defense Force Acquires Chinese Kalashnikovs

WS0107125793 Tallinn ETA NEWS BULLETIN in English 0935 GMT 1 Jul 93

[From 30 June PAEVALEHT, p. 3]

[Text] Wednesday, June 30—The Estonian Defence Force has got rearmed as regards the hand guns—currently in use are Chinese- made Kalashnikov attack rifles. The Chinese arms are more reliable than the Romanian Kalashnikov attack rifles that used to be used by the Defence Force, said Colonel Laaneots, Chief of General Staff. The costly and excellent Israeli rifles that the Defence Force has bought will not be used for field exercise and in shooting ranges for fear of their getting worn out, said Mr Rein Helme, chairman of Riigikogu Defence Commission. That is why the Chinese Kalashnikovs were bought. The Romanian hand guns were passed over to the Defence League. Mr Helme said it was by no means playing down the importance of the Defence League—it was just that a poor country like ours had to set the right priorities.

Government Rejects Resolution on Tax-Free Trading

WS0107123893 Tallinn ETA NEWS BULLETIN in English 0936 GMT 1 Jul 93

[From 1 July ARIPAEV, p. 5]

[Text] Thursday, July 1—Under the decision adopted by the Government, Estonia will not in the nearest future create the system of tax-free trading. Premier Mart Laar said the expediency of such a system for Estonia would need thorough study. The Ministry of Finance submitted to the Government two draft resolutions, one envisaging the promotion of tax-free trade, the other deeming it inexpedient, with the Government adopting the second one. The Ministry of Finance pointed out that the prices of goods on sale in Estonia were low as they are for the foreigners, thereby making further reduction of the prices absolutely unnecessary.

Lithuania

Foreign Minister Refuses To Step Down

WS0207101693 Tallinn BNS in English 1700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Vilnius, July 01, BNS - The Lithuanian foreign minister refused to step down amid accusations and reproaches on the work of his ministry.

But he made it clear that he would probably part from his deputy.

MP Povilas Gylys, Lithuanian foreign minister, responded to recent reproaches with a speech to the Lithuanian parliament Thursday [1 July].

Gylys put part of the responsibility for the country's foreign affairs on the Seimas (parliament) and on the president. They all have to work unanimously, he said.

Lithuania's relations with Latvia and Estonia became are improving [as received], he said, and the consolidation of steps taken by the three Baltic states became evident in the international conferences in June.

Latvia and Estonia have changed their policies toward signing a free trade treaty, he said. They are inclined to sign a three-party treaty instead of bilateral agreements.

Gylys dismissed reproaches on the ministry's statement about the U.S. military attack on Iraq and its silence on the Russia-Estonia situation.

The statement on the United States attack was made with certain reservations, he said. A statement on Russia's sanctions against Estonia, he said, was under way with intensive consultations.

The Lithuanian foreign minister confirmed that Lithuania still demands repayment for Russian damages during the 50 years of occupation. He said similar

negotiations with Germany might be proposed on the restoration of historic justice.

Centrist MP Romualdas Ozolas, however, found Gylys' arguments unconvincing. The ministry's policies resemble "a lunatic kingdom of dead souls," he said. "What else disadvantageous to Lithuania must happen to arise a wish in the minister to resign?"

"What has happened so far?," responded Gylys. Ozolas, he said, doesn't make arguments, but presents a "state of mind" influenced not only by Lithuania's foreign policies but by a multitude of things.

'Economic Chaos' Looms as Gas Supplies Halted

PM0207090993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jul 93 First Edition p 4

[Nikolay Lashkevich report: "Lithuania on Brink of Gas Crisis"]

[Text] The termination of gas supplies by the Russian "Lentransgaz" concern last Sunday has brought Lithuania to the verge of the most serious energy crisis in recent times.

Residents and enterprises are at present continuing to be supplied with gas from stocks accumulated in the main gas pipeline, but, according to specialists' estimates, these will suffice just for two or three weeks, after which total economic chaos could ensue in Lithuania.

The reasons for the present crisis are self-evident. Just two major enterprises in the republic buy gas from commercial structures, while the rest are accustomed to using relatively inexpensive fuel thanks to state deliveries from Russia and are not ashamed to get into debt. Now the patience of the Russian gas industry has run out. The amount of the Lithuanian debt is huge—more than $43 million. No one in Lithuania yet knows where to find the money to clear the debt.

Lithuanian Finance Minister E. Vilkelis believes that bolder use should be made of credits from the EC and the Japanese Foreign Economic Bank—approximately 100 million ECU's and $45 million—which are soon to reach Lithuania. The same opinion is also held by A. Slezevicius, Lithuanian head of government. In addition, the prime minister is not losing hope of reaching agreement with the Russians and also persuading Lithuania's commercial and state banks to ask Western banks to provide credits for energy purposes.

Incidentally, if you consider that the westernmost Russian oblast—Kaliningrad Oblast—receives gas through a pipeline which passes across Lithuanian territory, then a desperate Lithuania might resort to an extreme measure and also shut off the faucets, leaving Kaliningrad on a gas starvation ration.

As usual, the population will suffer most because of the gas crisis. It is proposed that they will soon pay 35 cents (approximately 100 rubles) for one cubic meter of gas used.

At present there is gas in Lithuanian apartments. But when it runs out, a vote of no confidence in the recently elected authorities is ensured.

Russia Resumes Gas Supplies to 'Solvent' Firms

LD0107213893 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 1900 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Russia has resumed natural gas supplies to solvent Lithuanian enterprises. Last Sunday natural gas supplies were cut off to Lithuania due to a $43 million debt for gas supplied earlier. The director general of the state enterprise, Lithuanian Gas, told the Baltic News Service today that Russia was supplying the necessary amount of gas to 81 Lithuanian companies. At present Lithuania's daily consumption of gas is 500,000 cubic meters. Earlier it used three times as much to meet its most urgent needs.

Brazauskas Denies Economy Reintegrating With Russia

LD0107210793 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1600 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Report by correspondent Algirdas Usas from the Lithuanian Seimas radio studio]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Algirdas Brazauskas clarified that the Lithuanian stance at the negotiations on compensation for the inflicted damage remained the same as was expressed by the nation in the referendum of February, 1991. The Christian Democratic Party was one of the initiators of the referendum. The president said that the signing of the agreement on the withdrawal of the troops would make the negotiations easier. The state negotiation delegation, the work of which the president assessed positively, will have a great and difficult job to do. The president expects good results from the delegation, although a considerable amount of time and effort will be needed.

The president denied allegations that the actions of the present Lithuanian leadership sponsored the reintegration into the Russian economy. These facts are simply pulled out of the air. Algirdas Brazauskas stressed that integration and economic cooperation were two different matters.

The president agreed that Russia was exploiting its monopoly position especially in the sphere of strategic raw materials, therefore alternatives should be sought more vigorously. In general, Algirdas Brazauskas said, how can one speak about integration into the Russian economy when all the economy has practically collapsed. True, many joint enterprises with Russia have been registered in Lithuania, however, these do not play any significant role in the economy of the country. Hardly any new enterprises of this type will be set up. For example, the setting up of joint enterprises on the basis of former military enterprises was declined.

There are none and there will not be any essential differences between the former and current policy toward Russia, the president assured. [passage omitted]

Government To Inform Foreign Countries of Agreements

WS0207102493 Tallinn BNS in English 1700 GMT 1 Jul 93

[Text] Vilnius, July 01, BNS—Lithuania gave its external relations a boost Thursday [1 July] with a decision to send all its international agreements to interested foreign countries.

The government commissioned the Lithuanian Foreign Ministry to handle the job. Governmental decisions will be translated into English by the Government Office. Documents adopted by the Lithuanian Government will have to be translated and sent to foreign states within 10 days of their approval.